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Wednesday, April 11, 2012

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CITY: 8.7L/100KM
Optima SX Turbo shown

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$2,199 down payment. Offer based on 2012 Optima LX M/T and includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,939 and **$1,000** lease savings.¥

DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA OPTIMA LX A/T	2012 Honda Accord SE A/T	2012 Toyota Camry LE A/T
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2012 SORENTO

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Sorento SX shown

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DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA SORENTO LX AT FWD (4-CYL)	2012 Honda CR-V FWD LX 2WD (4-CYL)	2012 Ford Escape 2.5L XLT FWD (4-CYL)
Horsepower (hp)	191	185	171
Torque (lb.-ft.)	181	163	171
Towing Capacity (lbs)	1,650	1,499	1,499
Overall Interior Volume (L)§	2,987	2,949	2,818
17" Alloy Wheels	✓	✗	✗

HWY: 6.2L/100KM
CITY: 9.5L/100KM

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MOTORING 2012

Rio5 SX shown

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$1,500 down payment. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,839 and **$500** lease savings.

DARE TO COMPARE	2012 KIA RIO 5DR LX M/T	2012 Toyota Yaris LE M/T	2012 Ford Fiesta S M/T
Horsepower (hp)	138	106	120
Torque (lb.-ft.)	123	103	112
Fuel Economy - HWY	4.9L/100km	5.2L/100km	5.1L/100km
Power Windows	✓	✗	✗
Steering Wheel Audio Controls	✓	✗	✗
Heated Sideview Mirrors	✓	✓	✗

HWY: 4.9L/100KM
CITY: 6.6L/100KM

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Prices do not include dealer administration fees ($399 to $699), licensing, PPSA or applicable taxes.

Offer(s) available on select new 2011/2012 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by April 30, 2012. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicle images shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable). Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Other lease and finance options also available. †Optima 3 Payments On Us offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance or lease a new 2011/2012 Optima or Optima Hybrid from a participating dealer between April 9 – April 15, 2012. Eligible lease and purchase finance (including FlexChoice) customers will receive a cheque in the amount of 3 payments (excluding taxes) to a maximum of $400/month. Lease and finance (including FlexChoice) purchases are subject to approved credit. Customers will be given a choice between up to $1,200 reductions from the selling/leasing price either taxes or dealer can issue a cheque to the customer. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. **0% purchase financing is available on select 2012 Kia models on approved credit (OAC). Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2012 Sorento (SR75B) with a selling price of $28,379 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650, other fees of $34, GWVIC fee, Environmental Fee and A/C tax ($100, where applicable)] financed at 0% APR for 60 months. Monthly payments equal $413 with a down payment/equivalent trade of $2,600. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $28,379. License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $699), PPSA, and registration fees are extra. Financing example excludes $1,000 loan savings (see below) that is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Retailer may set for less. See dealer for full details. ◂◂Don't Pay for 90 Days* on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on select 2011 and 2012 models on approved credit (OAC) (2011/2012 Sportage/Sorento/Sedona/Borrego excluded). No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. ◂Lease offer available on approved credit (OAC) on 2012 Optima (OP54C)/2012 Rio5 (RO55C) is based on monthly payments of $267/$183 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, $340 MVIC fee, Environmental Fee, A/C tax ($100, where applicable), $350 lease service fee and a lease savings (lease credit) of $1,000/$500 ($1,000/$500 includes $500/$0 Loyalty Bonus and $500 lease savings)] for 48 months at 2.9%/1.9% with a $2,199/$1,500 down payment/equivalent trade, PPSA, security deposit and first month's payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $15,036/$10,275 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $10,054/$6,600. Lease has 16,000 km/year allowance (other packages available and $0.12/km for excess kilometres). Other taxes, registration, insurance, licensing and variable dealer administration fees (up to $699) are excluded. ¥Loan savings for 2012 Kia Sorento LX AT (SR75B) is $1,000 and is available on purchase financing only on approved credit (OAC). Loan savings varies by model and trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. ¥Loyalty Bonus offer available on 2012 Optima (OP54C) at a value of $500 for any current Kia owners towards the purchase or lease of a new 2012 Optima (OP54C) by April 30, 2012. Loyalty Bonus offer applicable to cash purchase, lease and purchase financing only and will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Offer is transferrable within same household only (must provide proof of address). Limit of one Loyalty Bonus per customer or household. Certain restrictions apply. See dealer for details. ¥Compare against maximum cargo capacity when 2nd row seats are folded. 2012 Kia Sorento LX AT vs. 2012 Honda CR-V FWD LX 2WD (4-CYL). ‡2012 Kia Sorento awarded the Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. §Highway/city fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on Transport Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada's *Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Reproduction of the contents of this material without the expressed written approval of Kia Canada Inc. is prohibited. All information is believed to be accurate, based on information available at the time of printing. Information sourced from independent third-party research. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.

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estimated
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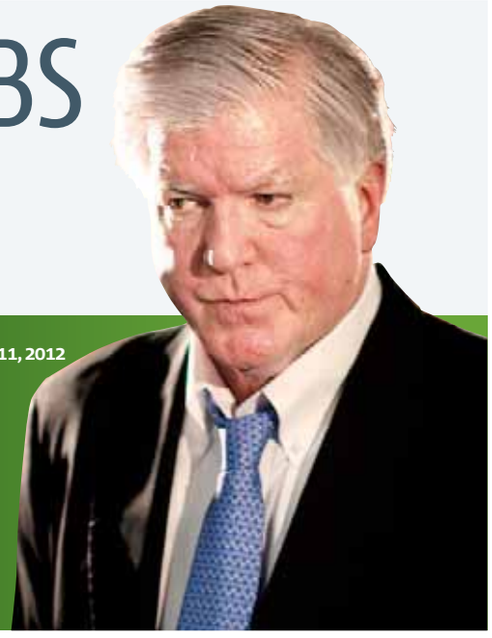
SEASON OF SOBS

LEAFS GM BRIAN BURKE APOLOGIZES TO FANS WHO STUCK BY HIS TEAM, WHICH, YET AGAIN, JUST WAS 'NOT GOOD ENOUGH' PAGE 41



TORONTO metro®

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

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Melanie Bos, the GM senior manager who allegedly torched her lover's home, is seen entering court on Tuesday in Oshawa. Her ex is the company's former union leader, James Hoy. RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'I'm sorry I was a lousy wife'

GM love-affair trial.
In video evidence, Bos says that just because she lied to her husband does not mean she committed arson

The braid of lies Melanie Bos wove unravelled at a Burger King in Bowmanville, unbeknownst to the senior General Motors manager.

That day, nearly three years ago, an unlikely rendezvous occurred at the fast-food joint.

Bos's husband met her lover.

James Hoy, a retired union leader at GM in Oshawa, had been dating Bos, a manager at the same plant, for nine months. Hoy was under the impression her husband was dead. Not so, he learned.

Bos was arrested the next day in the driveway of the home she shared with her lover, the home that police allege she tried to burn down while he slept.

An Oshawa judge heard these details in court Tuesday as the Crown opened its case against Bos, who is on trial for arson and mischief. Defence will argue that Hoy set the fires — not one, but two — himself.

"I'm sorry that I was a lousy wife," the court heard Bos tell a police detective in an interrogation video admitted as evidence. "But last I heard being a lousy wife was not against the law."

In court, Bos wore a cream skirt suit, a fresh haircut and a polite smile.

In the video, the 45-year-old woman admitted she had made errors in judgment when it came to relationships with men, but balked at any suggestion that she started a fire.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hanging up his sweater vest

Rick Santorum, the only candidate who still stood a chance against Mitt Romney for the Republican presidential nomination, quits the race PAGE 19

Vodka violations

LCBO is alleging one of its employees stole $2 million in part by selling more than 1,000 cases of vodka, rye and rum to bogus diplomats PAGE 3

The puck stops here

Pens? Flyers? Caps? With the Leafs knocked out of the running, who should Torontonians root for?
NHL PLAYOFF PREVIEW: PAGE 42

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Please note that cosmetic issues are not covered under this guarantee such as fairings or cases.

LCBO sues worker for alleged spirits scam

Bogus booze. Liquor board asking for $2M for 'fake' sales

Ontario's publicly-owned liquor-control authority is suing a long-time clerk and others for $2 million he allegedly scammed by selling more than a thousand cases of vodka, rye and rum to bogus diplomats or by pocketing cash from legitimate sales.

In its statement of claim, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario alleges its former employee Francois Agostini received $1.6 million worth of products between April 2005 and December 2011 but never sent the proceeds on to the LCBO.

The statement of claim contains allegations not proven in court.

Agostini, who worked at the Crown corporation from 1981 until he was fired at the end of January, was the sole order clerk in Toronto for a program under which foreign diplomats and consular officials can buy tax-free alcohol — a 40 per cent discount.

Payments under the program could only be made by cash, cheque or money order but most were made in cash, court documents show.

The suit filed with Ontario Superior Court, which also names five other defendants, alleges Agostini either pocketed the cash or manipulated invoices and only remitted some of the money owed to the LCBO.

Starting in 1997, Agostini — who earned $55,000 a year — gave cash, jewelry, gifts and loans worth hundreds of thousands of dollars to various associates, including other defendants, Andrea Smallwood and his wife Carol Agostini, the suit alleges.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Accusations

- In 2005, Agostini began ordering alcohol for a Ukrainian diplomat, Svitlana Petrovska.
- In fact, the suit alleges, Petrovska was waitress Andrea Smallwood, who sold some of the product from her trailer in Stouffville.

Harlequin falcons share a romantic meal on the terrace

Harlequin lovebirds Quest and Kendal, seen here enjoying a meal together, are back in Toronto, and for the past several weeks they have been mating across from the North York branch of the world's largest producer of romance novels. There are 18 active Falcon nests around the GTA, with seven cameras trained on nests around the GTA. JAYME POISSON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mom's agony. 'I don't know if I should ask God to let him live or to take him'

With the prospects grim for her son, even if he survives, Christina To doesn't know what to pray for.

"At this point, honestly, I don't know if I should ask God to let him live or to take him," she said Tuesday, trying to hold back tears.

"Let God's will be done. That is my prayer. Let God's will be done."

The mother of George To, the Mississauga teen in a coma and fighting for his life after a weekend driving stunt went horribly wrong, still can't imagine losing her only boy, who is now 18.

On Monday, George underwent emergency brain surgery. On Tuesday, his family kept a vigil at their home.

George To

While the 48 hours after surgery are critical, a police source said the teen's injuries — suffered while "car surfing" — would likely leave him with brain damage should he wake up.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Child molestation

Man declared a dangerous offender ... again

A repeat child molester has been declared a dangerous offender for the second time, and this time he's being jailed indefinitely.

Dennis James Taylor, 53, sat impassively in the prisoner's box as Ontario Superior Court Justice Janet Wilson told him it's too risky to sentence him to a fixed jail term followed by a 10-year supervision order. Taylor has been convicted of sexually assaulting children — mostly boys — 8 times.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fraud. Unqualified doc admits performing cosmetic surgery

A Yorkville doctor who performed cosmetic operations without any surgical qualifications admitted Tuesday to professional incompetence and failing to maintain standards of care.

Dr. Eli Judah appeared before a disciplinary panel of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario to face allegations regarding the treatment of 29 patients at his Yorkville Cosmetic Surgery Centre. The patients visited his private facility on Bloor Street for procedures ranging from breast lifts and buttock augmentation to large-volume liposuction.

Judah is a general practitioner and is not certified as a surgical specialist in Canada, nor qualified as an anesthesiologist, the panel was told.

Despite his lack of appropriate training, Judah administered IV sedation during operations and "excessively sedated" patients, according to an agreed statement of facts. The findings drew on reports from expert plastic surgeons who observed Judah, interviewed him and examined patients' medical charts.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 NEWS

On the web

Site to raise money for shooter

An attorney for George Zimmerman confirmed the authenticity of a new website that allows supporters to raise money for the neighbourhood-watch volunteer who has admitted to fatally shooting an unarmed black teen in Florida. Go to metronews.ca for the video and full story.

Real or fake?

A video of an adorable golden retriever rescued from a pool by its mother has made its way to the top of many bloggers' watch lists — not necessarily for the cute antics, but because of skepticism about the video's authenticity. Watch at metronews.ca

Mobile news

One of the best-kept secrets in TV has been revealed: The Simpsons creator Matt Groening has come clean on his inspiration for the animated hometown of Homer and family. Scan the code for the story.

Cancer treatment

Hospital launches $1B fundraising campaign

It's a fundraising announcement that promises to revolutionize Canadian cancer treatment.

On Thursday, the Princess Margaret Hospital will publicly launch a campaign to raise one billion dollars over five years for personalized cancer medicine using genetic profiling of tumours to deliver more effective and targeted treatment.

The Billion Dollar Challenge will be the beginning of a new future for cancer care and research at The Princess Margaret and we hope across Canada, said Paul Alofs, president and CEO of the Princess Margaret. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Council

Ford on the shelf with back injury

Mayor Rob Ford missed votes at city council Tuesday to get treatment for a back injured tossing candy to children at the Beaches Easter parade, an ally suggested. Ford did not return to council after the lunch break. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Budget

City's sports teams celebrate cancelled fees

Toronto sports leagues are breathing easier after city council cancelled $1.5 million in new fees for permits to use baseball diamonds, soccer pitches and other sports fields. The fees were quietly approved in January as part of the city's budget, targeting fields that had previously been used for free. Officials for sports leagues said they received no notice and had already set their membership rates for 2012. Their concerns were alleviated when council voted 41-0 Tuesday to cancel the fees in 2012, and consult widely with sports groups in setting fees for 2013. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Port Credit

GO train strikes, kills woman

Peel EMS spokesman, Tom Kukolic, confirmed that a young woman is dead after getting struck by a GO train near the Port Credit GO station. It happened around 4:20 p.m. near Queen Street East and Woodlawn Avenue. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ford finances under the microscope

Audit. Forensic accounting company will issue an opinion on the mayor's campaign financial statements

By all accounts, the way Mayor Rob Ford financed the beginning of his unusual 2010 campaign was itself unusual. But was it illegal?

Who is doing the auditing?

Toronto's Froese Forensic Partners, which has conducted campaign audits since the 2003 election. The company has audited the mayors of Vaughan, Hamilton and Fort Erie.

How long will this take?

Ken Froese, the company's senior managing director, says the audit will commence in the immediate future. Previous audits have taken between two and 10 months, he said, "depending on the level of cooperation from the candidate and third parties, as well as the complexity of the issues."

If Froese Forensic identifies violations, Ford will likely face a lengthy court process that may not end until the middle of the next mayoral campaign.

What issues will Froese Forensic look at?

Any issues its investigators think are worth looking at — including, possibly, those brought to their attention by tipsters. "If anyone has information they think is relevant for us, we'd be pleased to hear from them," Froese said.

What happens when the audit is finished?

Froese Forensic will offer a written opinion on whether it appears that Ford contravened the Municipal Elections Act. If the company concludes that there are indeed "apparent contraventions," the city's compliance audit committee, made up of three appointed experts, will decide whether to pursue charges. If charges are laid, a judge would eventually render a decision.

What punishments could Ford face if he is found guilty?

The law says violators face removal from office, a fine of up to $25,000, and, for any violation "committed knowingly," up to six months in jail. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

East-end coffee house battles graffiti grief

The Rooster Coffee House on Broadview Avenue has been repeatedly tagged with graffiti. The owner has removed it from the front of the facade but left the tags in the alley. A public bylaw enforcement agent has threatened the owner with a fine unless it too is removed. LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police chief endorses anti-theft measures for cellphones

Apple's iPhone
KIMIHIRO HOSHINO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

As Toronto police scramble to deal with cellphone robberies plaguing area high schools, American regulators are adopting new measures to discourage cellphone theft south of the border.

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission, along with major wireless carriers AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile, announced plans Tuesday to create a national database of identification numbers that are unique to each phone.

With that list, cellular carriers will be able to permanently disable a phone once it has been stolen, vastly decreasing its street value. Until now, U.S. carriers have only been disabling so-called "SIM" cards, which can be swapped in and out, creating a black market for stolen phones.

Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair, who belongs to a North American association of police chiefs that urged the U.S. to introduce the database, told the Toronto Police Services Board last week similar measures are needed here to combat the epidemic of phone theft.

Cellphone manufacturers need to add technology to phones so that they can be disabled if they are stolen, he added.

"The technology exists, but they choose not to do it," Blair told the board at a meeting last week. "I think we should be advocating for that as well."

Blair was responding to concerns raised by Councillor Frances Nunziata, parents and educators who said students need more protection from cellphone theft.

Blair recently attended a meeting of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, which was reportedly behind the push for change in the U.S. Blair is vice-president of the association, which is an affiliation of 70 police chiefs from large U.S. and Canadian cities.

In Canada, individual carriers can block any phone after it's been reported lost or stolen, but they do not share that information with their competitors. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Phone attacks

Frances Nunziata (Ward 11 York South-Weston) said her office "gets complaints every day that kids leaving school are being attacked and their cellphones and iPods stolen. And they're being beaten up."

- One of the latest incidents involved a boy who needed medical attention after he was tackled and roughed up when he tried to run away, she added.

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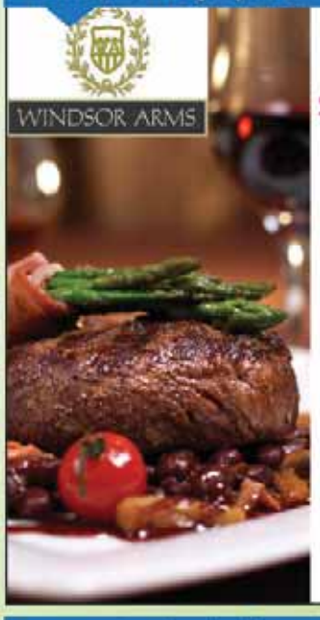

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Tax study. Stress induced by last-minute filing may raise Canada's traffic fatalities

This month's income tax deadline day can not only be stressful for those who have left filing their return to the last minute, but it can also be deadly.

A 30-year study of traffic accidents in the United States has found that the country's mid-April tax deadline day is associated with an increased risk of fatal crashes.

Using data for fatal vehicle crashes for every April 15 over the last three decades, the study found that Americans have a six per cent increased risk of dying on tax day — and a similar risk likely occurs on tax deadline day April 30 in Canada, researchers say.

"We find about the same increase in risk both during the morning hours, the afternoon hours and the evening hours," said lead researcher Dr. Donald Redelmeier, an internal medicine specialist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

Redelmeier, who treats victims of vehicle crashes, said the increased risk on U.S. tax day translates into about 13 deaths per year. "And driver error contributes to about 93 per cent of such events," he said.

The study, published in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association, used tax day road fatalities as a marker for what high stress can do to driver behaviour any day of the year, anywhere in the world. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taxes and crashes

- **Filing deadline.** The largest increases in risk for fatal crashes on tax deadline day occurred during the last 20 years, despite the advent of electronic tax filing. Electronic filing may encourage more people to leave tax-return preparation to the last minute.
- **Explanation.** Researchers aren't clear on what is behind the bump up in the risk of dying in a road accident on the final day for filing taxes. One explanation is that stressful deadlines can lead to driver distraction and human error. Other factors such as sleep deprivation and drinking alcohol may also play a role.

Ontario budget. Demands by NDP resemble campaign

The NDP's list of demands in exchange for supporting the Liberal budget — and avoiding another Ontario election — was dismissed Tuesday as a "spending spree" by the cash-strapped minority government.

Voters did not give any party a majority last October and don't want to be forced back to the polls because politicians couldn't get a budget passed in a minority parliament, warned NDP Leader Andrea Horwath.

"What they want to see now is the Liberal government, in its minority, make some compromises to make sure that the budget is acceptable by at least one of the other political parties," she said.

Horwath added a $250-million job creation tax credit and help for the horse racing and tourism sectors to her list of demands, which for the most part amounts to a beefed up version of the NDP's campaign platform from last fall. Last week, Horwath called for a new tax on people making over $500,000 and said the eight per cent provincial portion of the HST should be removed from home heating bills.

The Liberals want the Ministry of Finance to review the NDP's ideas before reacting, but made it clear eliminating the $15.2-billion deficit by 2017-18 remains the government's top priority. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"It's always easy to spend more. It's so much harder to spend less," said Premier Dalton McGuinty in response to the NDP's budget demands.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gas price-fixing

Lawsuit demands refund to fuel consumers

A class-action lawsuit is seeking millions in damages for the alleged victims of a gas price-fixing scheme five years ago in eastern Ontario. The suit stems from a Competition Bureau case that saw Canadian Tire and others plead guilty to colluding to fix the price of gas sold in Kingston and Brockville. In a notice of action filed with the court, law firm Siskinds says it wants the pump operators to refund any profits from the scheme to consumers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cyberpredators

Quebec boosts officers fighting Internet child porn

The Quebec government is tripling the number of officers dedicated to fighting cyberpredators and Internet child porn. The government says it is adding 21 new officers to the Quebec provincial police unit. Provincial police director Richard Deschesnes says the number of complaints about Internet pedophiles grew to about 400 last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Florida fire

Deaths of mother, son considered homicides: Police

The deaths of a former Niagara Falls, Ont., woman and her son in a Florida fire are being treated as homicides. The bodies of 43-year Carol Wisdom and her eight-year-old son Michael were found in their charred home in North Port, Fla., last week. Police say an accelerant was used in the garage. It isn't clear yet if the mother and son were killed by the fire or were already dead when it was set. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trial delay

Rafferty's lawyer sick with flu

The trial of a man accused of killing Victoria Stafford did not sit Tuesday in London, Ont., because Michael Rafferty's lawyer Dirk Derstine is sick with flu. Rafferty has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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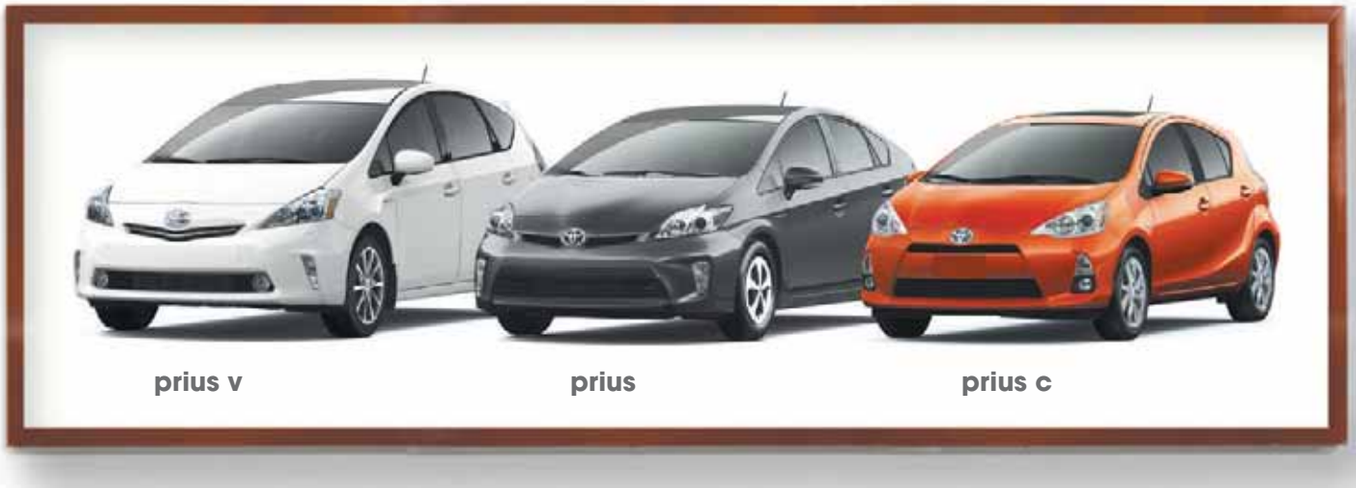

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Alleged stalker

Quebecer begged actor to marry her, police say

A Canadian actress accused of stalking Alec Baldwin sent him a string of emails begging him to marry her, police say.

Genevieve Sabourin was arraigned on aggravated harassment and stalking charges after her arrest in New York City.

Police said Baldwin and Sabourin met a decade ago on a movie set.

Sabourin travelled from her home in Quebec to New York City, then began sending Baldwin desperate emails, police said.

Baldwin posted a Twitter message about the episode Tuesday, writing, "Isn't it odd when an accused stalker is in handcuffs, being taken away by the cops, yet smiles for the cameras?" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman kidnapped

Man seeks to appeal his conviction

A New Brunswick man found guilty of abducting a woman and sexually assaulting her for almost a month argued Tuesday that his conviction and sentence should be overturned.

Romeo Cormier, 64, told the provincial Court of Appeal in Fredericton he was not properly represented by his lawyers and the trial judge made errors.

Cormier was sentenced to 18 years in jail last August for abduction and sexual assault.

The woman testified Cormier grabbed her at knifepoint outside a Moncton, N.B., shopping mall.

She was able to escape when Cormier left to go to a food bank. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Forces base

Korean jet lands at a B.C. Canadian Forces base due to in-flight emergency

A Korean Airlines Boeing 777 has been diverted to a Canadian Forces base on the east coast of Vancouver Island because of an in-flight emergency.

Canadian Forces say the jet was travelling from Vancouver International Airport and was diverted around 5:30 p.m. Base emergency services were activated. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mulcair gets a TV makeover: He cares … just like Jack

The family man. Olivia Chow and the NDP launch a new ad that rejects any lurch to centre and stresses party continuity

New NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair: Family man. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Newly minted NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair is being introduced to Canadians as someone who will fight for ordinary families.

Just like his predecessor Jack Layton did.

The emphasis is on continuity, not change, in a new English television ad being launched by the federal NDP.

It features Layton's widow, NDP MP Olivia Chow, assuring viewers, "Jack's vision is in good hands."

During the seven-month leadership contest to choose Layton's successor, Mulcair was portrayed by his rivals as someone who would lurch the social democratic party to the centre of the political spectrum, turning it into an imitation of the Liberal party.

Yet the English ad features a series of, well, ordinary Canadians expressing confidence that Mulcair will champion issues closest to their hearts.

"He'll fight for my family," says a young mother, packing groceries into her car.

"He cares if I make ends meet," a tool-toting tradesman tells the TV viewers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Miss Universe

Pageant opens up to transgender women

Transgender women will be allowed to participate in the Miss Universe beauty pageant next year, officials announced Tuesday. They have already ruled Vancouver's Jenna Talackova, 23, can vie for the crown this year.

She had a sex change four years ago after being born a male.

Now pageant officials say they are working on the language of the official rule policy change.

Initially, organizers in Canada disqualified Talackova from the 61st Miss Universe Canada pageant set for May, citing a rule that she must be "naturally born" a woman.

Talackova told ABC's Good Morning America' she has a boyfriend and hopes to have children some day. She said, without elaborating, "Yes, I want to have two children." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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April 19, 6:30 p.m., Robert Half International, Mississauga
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Breivik's legal defense team: They argue he is not competent to stand trial. HEIKO JUNGE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Norway shooter is sane: Report

New assessment. Accused of killing 77, Breivik saw himself as crusader against Islam

When Anders Behring Breivik goes on trial next week, both the prosecution and the defence will say he killed 77 people in a bomb and shooting massacre that jolted the world's image of terrorism.

The only question now is whether the self-styled anti-Muslim militant was sane when he did it — and after a new psychiatric assessment Tuesday, even that may no longer be in dispute.

"Our conclusion is that he [was] not psychotic at the time of the actions of terrorism and he is not psychotic now," Terje Toerrissen, one of the psychiatrists who examined Breivik in prison, told The Associated Press.

Anders Behring Breivik. HEIKO JUNGE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The twin attacks on July 22 — a bomb in Oslo's government district followed by a shooting spree at the governing Labor Party's youth camp outside the capital — brutally shocked Norway and reminded the West of terror threats other than al-Qaida.

The blond, blue-eyed gunman surrendered to police on a lakeside island where the bodies of his many teenage victims lay scattered. He claimed he was the Islamic terror group's antithesis, a modern-day crusader waging a war against Islam in Europe.

Breivik confessed to the attacks but rejected criminal guilt, saying he had acted to protect Norway from being overrun by Muslims by targeting the left-leaning political establishment he claimed had betrayed the country with liberal immigration policies.

The psychiatric report presented to the Oslo district court on Tuesday backed up Breivik's own claim that he is sane, and contradicted an earlier assessment that declared him psychotic and suffering from paranoid schizophrenia. That first diagnosis was met with widespread criticism, prompting the court to order the second review.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kindergarten

Stepdad busted by show-and-tell

The stepfather of a five-year-old Bridgeport, Conn. boy who brought 50 packets of heroin to show-and-tell was arrested after going to the school in search of the drugs, police said Tuesday.

The student went to kindergarten Monday with his stepfather's jacket and pulled out the drugs in 10 small plastic bags when it came time for his presentation. The principal called police, and Santos Roman, 35, was arrested after arriving at the school.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cocky bird

Ironic rooster fears nothing

Nobody seems to know where he came from, but a local newspaper in Collierville, Tenn. reports a red rooster first showed up about three months ago and has been a daily visitor ever since at Gus' Fried Chicken in Collierville.

He's been known to cross a busy street, but most often crows from a fenced field across the street from the restaurant.

Collierville Animal Services has been trying to catch him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China

Arrest for illegal ultrasounds

Police in China have arrested a woman for performing ultrasound tests in the back seats of cars and illegally telling mothers the gender of their fetus, state media said Tuesday.

It is forbidden in China to tell expectant parents what sex their child will be because the practice has encouraged parents with a traditional preference for sons to abort female fetuses, skewing the ratio of boys to girls.

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Syrian refugees are seen at a camp in Reyhanli, Turkey. GERMANO ASSAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria launches fresh attacks

Uprising. Regime defies UN ceasefire plan — begins new raids on rebel areas

Syrian troops defied a UN-brokered cease-fire plan Tuesday, launching fresh attacks on rebellious areas.

But special envoy Kofi Annan said there was still time to salvage a truce that he described as the only chance for peace.

No sign of troop pullback

France calls claims of troop withdrawal by Syria a "flagrant ... lie."

More than a year into the Syrian uprising, the international community has nearly run out of options for halting the slide toward civil war. On Tuesday, Annan insisted his peace initiative remains "very much alive" — in part because there is no viable alternative.

The UN has ruled out any military intervention.

Several rounds of sanctions and other attempts to isolate President Bashar Assad have done little.

Facing a deadline to pull back its troops, Syria said it was withdrawing from certain areas, including the rebellious province of Homs.

Residents of Homs reported the heaviest shelling in months.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel calls them 'provocateurs'. Entry denied for Palestinian activists

Israel vowed Tuesday to prevent the entry of hundreds of pro-Palestinian activists from Europe and North America expected to arrive in the country this weekend.

Israel said they are provocateurs who are intent on disturbing public order.

The activists are set to board flights to Israel with the aim of participating in demonstrations against Israeli policy in the West Bank. Although organizers say all protests will be peaceful, Israeli officials said the activists would be deported.

"The provocateurs will be dealt with in a determined and quick way," said Israel's public security minister, Yitzhak Aharonovitch.

"If they arrive (in) Israel they will be identified, removed from the plane, their entry into Israel will be prevented and they will be moved to a detention facility until they are flown out of Israel."

"They have the right to enter Palestine. It's not up to Israel to forbid anybody from coming into Palestine," said Abdelfattah Abusrour, a local organizer.

Organizers say this week's mission, sponsored by an umbrella group called "Welcome to Palestine," seeks to draw attention toward Israeli travel restriction on Palestinians.

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Lawyers withdraw counsel after teen's shooter disappears

Website authenticity. George Zimmerman created website to solicit money for legal fees, living expenses, his lawyers confirmed

This is an image from the website therealgeorgezimmerman.com. George Zimmerman's former attorney confirmed the authenticity of the website, which allows supporters to raise money for Zimmerman. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Attorneys for the U.S. neighbourhood watch volunteer who fatally shot an unarmed black teen said Tuesday they have withdrawn as counsel because they have lost contact with him.

Attorney Craig Sonner and Hal Uhrig told a news conference they haven't heard from George Zimmerman since Sunday. They said that against their advice, Zimmerman contacted the special prosecutor who will decide if he should face charges.

Uhrig said his legal team is concerned about Zimmerman, who he said is "not doing well emotionally" and may be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Earlier Tuesday, Sonner confirmed the authenticity of a new website that allows supporters to raise money for living expenses and lawyers for the 28-year-old man who has admitted to fatally shooting Trayvon Martin.

All the money raised from the site, therealgeorgezimmerman.com, will go to Zimmerman, said Sonner.

Zimmerman says he shot 17-year-old Martin in self-defence after following the teenager in a Florida gated community.

He said he was returning to his truck when the teen attacked him.

Ben Crump, an attorney for Martin's family, said they're concerned that Zimmerman could be a flight risk if he is charged with a crime.

"At this point, we're just concerned that nobody knows where he is at. Nobody knows how to get to him," Crump said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Busted

U.S. bride accused of faking cancer for money

Authorities say a former New York woman pretended to have terminal cancer so she could have a lavish wedding reception and honeymoon.

The Times Herald-Record reports an Orange County Grand jury has indicted 25-year-old Jessica Vega with grand larceny and scheme to defraud.

According to the indictment, Vega accepted thousands of dollars in donated services and goods after claiming in 2010 that she was dying of leukemia.

She married Michael O'Connell in May 2010 and the couple spent their honeymoon in Aruba.

Four months later, O'Connell told the newspaper that Vega was faking the illness. The couple divorced over the incident, and O'Connell moved to Virginia. Vega later joined him. They have two children.

Vega was arraigned last Friday and pleaded not guilty.

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North Korea's prison camps 'brutal'

Spotlight on north. New report estimates more than 150,000 inmates in camps, despite denials they hold political prisoners

The U.S. human rights envoy for North Korea said Tuesday conditions in the communist country's "brutal" prison camps are worse than in the Soviet Union's gulag during the Cold War.

Robert King made his comments at a conference examining the North's network of prison labour camps and penitentiaries.

King said the U.S. has made it clear to Pyongyang that it needs not only to address international concerns over its weapons' programs but also to improve its human rights record if it wants to participate in the international community.

The international spotlight is currently shining on the North over its plans to launch a long-range rocket as early as Thursday, as it marks the centennial of the nation's founder — a step that Washington says will derail a recent U.S.-North Korean agreement to provide food aid in return for nuclear concessions. South Korean intelligence says the North is also preparing its third nuclear weapons test.

The report, based on interviews with 60 former prisoners and guards, says the camp system was initially modelled in the 1950s on the Soviet gulag to punish "wrong thinkers" and those belonging to the "wrong political class" or religious persuasion.

It cites estimates from North Korean state security agency officials who defected to South Korea that the camp system holds between 150,000 and 200,000 people out of a total population of around 24 million. It urges North Korea to allow the Red Cross access, and to dismantle the camps.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Systemic mistreatment'

- Report described different kinds of detention facilities, including penal labour colonies where it says political detainees are imprisoned without judicial process
- Lifetime sentences usually in mining, logging or agricultural industry.

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Condos destroyed in fire

Firefighters battle a blaze at the English Mountain Condominiums Resort in Sevier County, Tenn. Tuesday. The fire, which destroyed a significant number of time-share condominiums, was believed to be contained, but a wildfire it spawned burned on.

CURT HABRAKEN/THE MOUNTAIN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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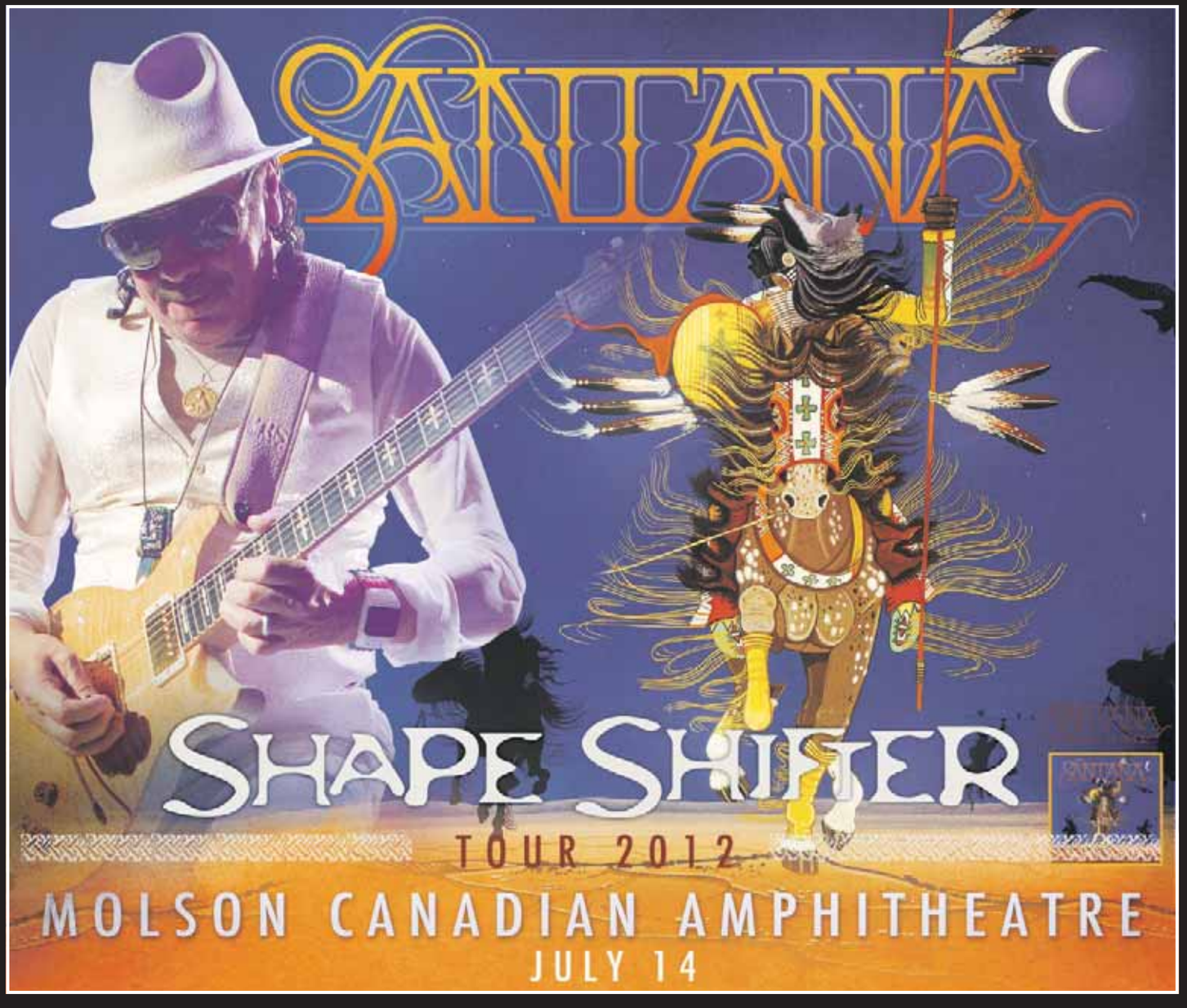

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Santorum ends bid for GOP nomination

Drops out. Departure from presidential race leaves Romney as likely candidate

Rick Santorum, the staunch social conservative who climbed from the basement of the polls to give Republican front-runner Mitt Romney a run for his money in the party's unpredictable presidential race, has ended his campaign.

"While this presidential race is over for me, and we will suspend our campaign effective today, we are not done fighting," Santorum said in Gettysburg, Pa.

"We are going to continue to fight for the Americans who stood up and gave us that air under our wings."

Rick Santorum
GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Santorum, who was facing a tough battle against Romney in his home state of Pennsylvania in the Republican primary on April 24, launched a tenacious campaign against the Mormon millionaire to become his number one threat in the race.

The former Pennsylvania senator's departure from the race all but assures Romney will get the nomination. Santorum was the only candidate who stood a chance of preventing Romney from amassing the 1,144 delegates needed to seal the nomination before the Republican convention in August.

Romney praised Santorum in a statement, calling him an "able and worthy competitor" and an "important voice" in the party.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama: Tax millionaires more

U.S. President Barack Obama made a populist pitch in Boca Raton, Fla. Tuesday that's resonating with many Americans: Millionaires, he said, should pay taxes at the same rate as the middle class. The president is pushing for the so-called Buffett rule, named after billionaire investor Warren Buffett, an Obama supporter who has called for tax hikes on the wealthy after famously observing last year that his secretary pays tax at a higher rate than he does. CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Praise from police

Kids keep their cool when bus driver passes out

A dozen students in a northwestern U.S. town knew what to do when their bus driver slumped over the wheel unconscious.

Surveillance video shows 13-year-old Jeremy Wuitschick rushing down the aisle and grabbing the wheel on Monday morning.

Wuitschick had noticed the driver was shaking and his arms flailing just as the bus started to pull into Surprise Lake Middle School in Milton, about 48 kilometres south of Seattle.

Students can be heard yelling, "Oh my God!" and "Call 911! Call 911!" — on the video. Others cried, "Take the keys out of the ignition!"

Wuitschick heeded the calls, removing the keys and turning the steering wheel to pull the bus over. The bus slowly came to a stop against the curb.

Wuitschick and another student, Johnny Wood, who was trained in first aid, started chest compressions on the driver until adults arrived. The driver was hospitalized in "grave condition" Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Feeding your taste for space

An astronaut enjoys green tea and almonds — before he is subjected to spirulina and stinky cheese. CONTRIBUTED

What's on the menu in the cosmic diner?
Algae slime and spicy, smelly foods ... but also some normal dishes, freeze-dried

ANTHONY JOHNSTON
Metro World News

When budding space tourists prepare to step onboard their commercial cosmic flight, what can they expect as their in-flight meal?

"Plenty of pungent, spicy and piquant food," says food scientist Robin Fegen, who specializes in preparing space cuisine for food enthusiasts.

Out-of-this-world flavours

"We recommend serving a very strong cheese that has a powerful taste, as in space you lose your normal sense of smell.... Other favourites include anything doused with chili and garlic."
Robin Fegen, the Robin Collective

Fegen, 26, is the director of the Robin Collective, a London-based group of entrepreneurs that hosts experimental food banquets for trend-hungry yuppies.

After collaborating with an astronaut and a space-nutrition expert at a recent science fair, some of Fegen's dishes have been "certified" as potential food for cosmic travel, he says.

"Each food tries to overcome eating problems that can crop up in space," says Fegen.

"For example, we recommend serving a very strong cheese that has a powerful taste, as in space you lose your normal sense of smell."

Eighty-five to 90 per cent of taste is controlled by your olfactory organs and at zero-gravity molecules in the air don't spread out in the same way.

"Other favourites include anything doused with chili and garlic."

As refrigerators use a lot of electrical power, they are a no-no in space. Instead, food is irradiated, dehydrated or freeze-dried for preservation.

"The good thing is that most dishes on Earth can be prepared into 'flight-ready' meals," NASA food scientist Michele Perchonok tells Metro.

"Unfortunately, having pizza in space is impossible as each component — wheat, sauce and cheese — requires at least partial gravity to prepare."

So, in space, while you sacrifice some foods, you can try new ones.

Spirulina, a green algae that is rich in protein and B vitamins, is touted as a future space crop by the European Space Agency's project MELiSSA, which researches growing food in potential lunar bases on Mars.

But as Fegen describes, "It's what I call an algal slime, that tastes like a dirty fish tank."

Not over the moon for stinky cheese

Anthony Johnston takes a taste.
ANTHONY JOHNSTON/METRO WORLD NEWS

I paid Robin Fegen a visit to try out his homemade space food.

First on the sampling menu is spirulina, that brownish-greenish algae that's packed with protein and B vitamins.

I got around that nasty "dirty, fish-tank" taste by eating it in a thick goo of chocolate.

The cocoa was overwhelming, while the spirulina gave a bit of a tingle on the tongue.

With gusto, I tried the algae on its own — more tingling, but this messy powder-like algae leaves a stench only a fisherman can love.

Next on the menu was chili "caviar."

No doubt inspired by the Russian space-trekking aristocracy, this dish has all the texture and complexion of real caviar — only it's made out of some brown algae and is hot 'n' spicy.

Just like caviar, expect that surprise bursting-bubble sensation on your tongue, and then a powerful pow of pepper striking your taste buds. I would still prefer to sneak on some ketchup.

Curiously, I noted that U.S. astronauts have the hots for chili, while Russian cosmonauts prefer lashings of garlic.

The stronger the flavour, the more likely you'll taste it, say space foodies.

Well, I can't say I agree with that extra-strong Stilton cheese.

If you like eating unwashed socks, tuck in. I'll stick to the spirulina, thank you.

ANTHONY JOHNSTON/
METRO WORLD NEWS

Q&A

Michele Perchonok
ANTHONY JOHNSTON/METRO WORLD NEWS

They don't just eat from tubes

A Q&A with NASA food-scientist Michele Perchonok.

When you're up in space, are you stuck with the same food all the time?
Not at all. Right now we prepare over 180 food types; we can feed a crew with three meals a day for eight to 10 days without repeating the same meal twice.

So what type of food do NASA's astronauts eat?
Basically any food can be eaten up there, but they need to be processed so that they're not easily spoiled and can be eaten at zero-gravity. Contrary to what people may think, astronauts don't really eat puréed, condensed foods straight from a tube. The Apollo crew did, but they were only in flight for a few days. When you're up in space on longer missions, you have to have more acceptable meals. There is also a lot of psychology involved in eating there — many astronauts seek "comfort food" like macaroni and cheese that they might not normally eat on Earth.

You pick the foods astronauts get to eat. Do they have a say in it?
In fact, they do — after each mission, a crew member is debriefed and they can suggest what new foods they can eat. After enough requests from crew members, we added vegetarian chili and Caribbean jerk chicken to our menu.

ANTHONY JOHNSTON/
METRO WORLD NEWS

In Metro Thursday

- **We reveal the Canadian finalist for our Metro Race for Space contest.**

More at metronews.ca

- **"Life-changing":** Businessman Gregory Olsen dishes on being a space tourist.
- **Science fiction:** Scientists delve into the plausible and implausible of space movies.

Macs now susceptible to viruses: Experts

Infected. Virus called Flashback or Flashfake has hit an estimated 100,000 Apple users in Canada, nearly one million worldwide

Mac users can no longer be blithely indifferent about the risks of viruses and cyber attacks, warn computer security experts.

A widespread virus called Flashback or Flashfake has hit hundreds of thousands of Apple computers worldwide — including an estimated 100,000 in Canada — and is widely considered to be just the first of many malicious attacks that will continue to ensnare Mac users.

Virus creators have long been targeting the growing numbers of Mac users and the fact Flashback/Flashfake hit an estimated one per cent of all Macs worldwide makes the launch of this virus a "historic event," said Mikko Hypponen, chief research officer with security company F-Secure.

"Mac users can't just do like they've always done, which is to laugh at the Windows users who had to worry about viruses because they didn't. I think it's a wake-up call for Mac users," Hypponen said.

Word of the virus first broke out of Russia last week, with an estimated 600,000 computers affected worldwide.

Virus

"I think it's the first of many more to come, I think the happy days of virus-free Macs are behind us."

Mikko Hypponen, chief research officer with security company F-Securecupation

The first wave of infections were linked to a fraudulent pop-up prompt users received on websites to install a new version of Adobe Flash. Later, hackers identified a security hole in the Java platform that allowed users to get infected without clicking on anything at all.

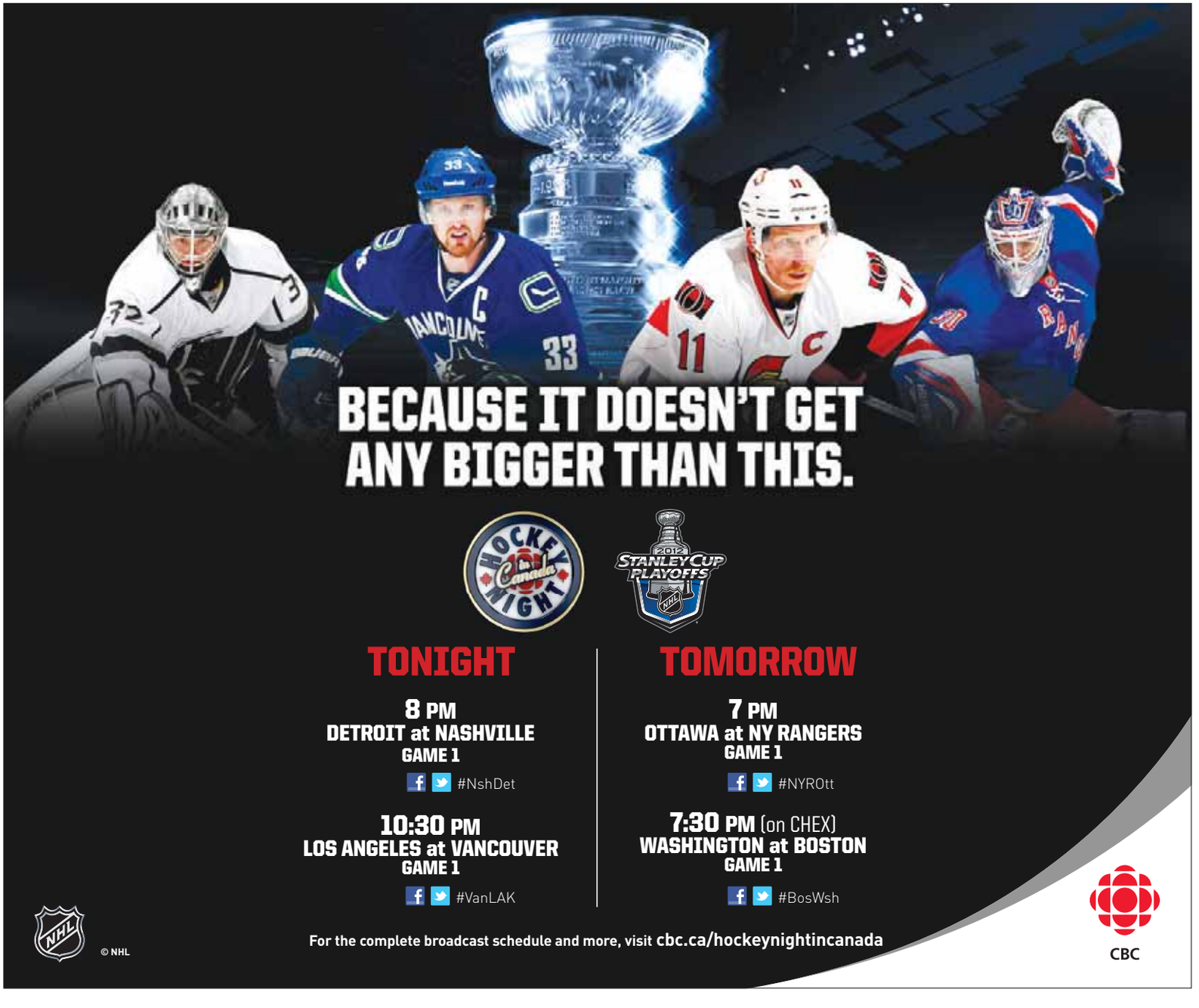
"The pages that would infect you could be perfectly normal websites, sites that you visit all the time, except now they had been hacked," explained Hypponen.

"But the hackers made no visible modifications, everything looked normal. But it loaded a Java (program) in the background and that (program) exploited the vulnerability."

Users infected by the virus could have their computers controlled and watched remotely by hackers and are vulnerable to having personal and banking information stolen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mac users can no longer laugh off the virus worries usually haunting PC users, experts warn. MATTHEW LLOYD/GETTY IMAGES



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A byte worth $600 billion

Apple CEO Tim Cook announces the new iPad in San Francisco last month. Apple, already the world's most valuable company, hit the $600-billion level for the first time Tuesday.

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Market Minute

DOLLAR 99.59¢ (-0.76¢)

TSX 11,935.29 (-83.21)

OIL $101.02 US (-$1.44)

GOLD $1,660.70 US (+$16.80)

Natural gas: $2.10 US (-0.7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,715.93 (-213.66)

Axe falls on CBC programs as cuts begin

Media. World affairs radio program Dispatches and CBC News Network's Connect with Mark Kelley cancelled

Big budget cuts at the CBC are putting "everything" on the chopping block — including hit shows Republic of Doyle and Heartland, programming boss Kirstine Stewart said Tuesday, as the public broadcaster axed CBC News Network's Connect with Mark Kelley and CBC Radio's Dispatches.

Tough decisions about how to manage a $225-million shortfall will include shaving six existing or planned shows from the public broadcaster's TV lineup, said Stewart, executive vice-president of CBC's English Services.

"We are making those decisions next week and we've got some pretty strong criteria to make those decisions," Stewart said after CBC staff were briefed on job and program cuts in an internal meeting.

"But in the end, what we're trying to do is protect the programming that Canadians seem to be most interested in and it will really narrow down the variety of programming that we've been able to give Canadians over the last few years."

Staff learned Tuesday that CBC TV's programming and news departments will bear the brunt of punishing cuts planned over the next three years. They include shuttered news bureaus in Africa and South America as well the elimination of 88 news jobs.

"It's not a good day for CBC," said Marc-Philippe Laurin, president of the Canadian Media Guild's CBC branch. "Canadians are really going to see a difference on the TV screen and hear a difference on CBC Radio."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Still dialing that old number

Melissa Toussaint, manager of Funky Junky Fool in Kensington Market, with a few of the rotary phones for sale in the shop. In the age of the cellphone, old rotary phones still have their ardent fans, who search vintage stores and estate sales for unique models from the 1950s to the 1980s. KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A world without pocket change

Cyber cash. The Royal Canadian Mint looks to develop digital currency — with the help of hackers

The Royal Canadian Mint wants to get rid of pocket change — and it's enlisting hacker-types for help.

Less than a week after the government announced the penny's impending death, the Mint quietly unveiled its digital currency, called MintChip.

Still in the research and development phase, MintChip will ultimately let people pay each other directly using smartphones, USB sticks, computers and tablets. The digital currency will be anonymous and good for small transactions — just like cash, the Mint says.

To make sure its technology meets the gold standard in a world where digital transactions are gaining steam, the Mint is holding a contest for software developers to create applications using the MintChip.

The old-fashioned prize? Solid gold wafers and coins worth about $50,000.

It's such an unusual move from the Crown corporation, which has been in the coin-making business for more than 100 years, that Hacker News questioned whether it was an "elaborate hoax."

It's not, the Mint's chief financial officer Marc Brûlé said Tuesday.

Commerce is changing and the Mint has always been innovative, Brûlé said. (For instance, it did an initial public offering of exchange traded receipts of its gold holdings last year.)

"There's been a very huge growing digital economy that is really going to be fueled by smartphones and mobile, being the next big thing," he said.

Despite the variety of payment options, he said there are "still no cost-effective electronic solutions" for low-value transactions that can be used regardless of a person's age or credit standing.

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GOOD DAY SON SHINE

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Very bad idea department: James McCartney, son of Paul the Beatle, was caught musing out loud the other day about forming a band composed exclusively of the sons of former Beatles: himself, Sean Lennon (John), Dhani Harrison (George) and Zak Starkey (Ringo).

James, cruelly described by the Telegraph as a "plumper, sadder, balder" version of his famous dad, told the BBC he fantasizes about being better than the Beatles. At 34, he better hurry. In fact, the whole (potential) act is in danger of geezering out before it gets started.

Sean Lennon is 36, Dhani Harrison is 33, and reluctant Beatle 2.0 Zak Starkey is 46. No wonder he's reluctant. At his age you like to be in bed by 10, which is not a rock 'n' roll time zone. Zak is in danger of engendering Beatles 3.0: The Grand-Kids Are All Right.

There are a host of Beatle larvae waiting in the wings if these four don't want to play nice together, but they're equally venerable. Julian Lennon is 49 and plays in a band called AARP (just kidding) and Jason Starkey is a slightly more sprightly 44.

The interesting thing is that all these old guys are musicians. Less interesting, perhaps, is that all together, their records have sold fewer copies than any of the other No. 1 hits generated by their Fab Fathers in their glory days.

Lest we forget, an album called 1, which is a compilation of all 27 of the Beatles' No. 1 hits, released in 2000, is still the biggest-selling album of the 21st century, with 31-million copies sold by the end of 2009. The Beatles are the only group to have the best-selling record in two decades: Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band dominated the '60s and 1 dominated the 2000s.

Into this epic tale wanders the warmed-over DNA of the next generation. So far, without much distinction. The most remarkable thing about their collective genius is a knack for weird band names, such as: thenewno2s, Ghost of a Sabre Tooth Tiger, Musty Jack Sponge and my personal favourite, the Exploding Nudists. Nope. Never heard of any of them either.

One or two of the 2.0 Beatles have enjoyed individual success: Zak Starkey has been a drummer for the Who and Oasis, which can be viewed as the most successful Beatles tribute band to date. Sean and Julian Lennon had their moments, but none of those moments holds a candle to Imagine.

If the boys weren't British, this could be a Greek tragedy in which the sons are crushed by the mythic reputations of their fathers. But it's hard to feel sorry for the heirs of men who sold more than a billion records.

Even if they sing out of tune, they'll get by with a little help from their dads.

James McCartney. JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES

Sean Lennon. CRAIG BARRITT/GETTY IMAGES

Dhani Harrison. ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

Zak Starkey. KATY WINN/GETTY IMAGES

Guest hails from the Ice Age

KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

42,000 years old

Born in the Ice Age, returns with tell-all

The most well-preserved baby mammoth, named Lyuba, is displayed at a press preview in Hong Kong Tuesday.

The one-month-old baby mammoth of the Ice Age died 42,000 years ago and was preserved in the ice. Lyuba was found by a reindeer herder in the permafrost of the Yamal Peninsula, Siberia, in 2007.

According to the Daily Mail, she is thought to have died in a mudslide at a month old.

The mud basically "pickled" the mammoth.

"She was doing great, very healthy. She just had this terrible misfortune," palaeontologist Dan Fisher, of the University of Michigan, told the news agency.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Research

10,000

Siberia-based scientists say they are hopeful that studying the mammoth will help explain what caused mammals from the Ice Age to vanish about 10,000 years ago.

Meets her match

- She will be exhibited in Hong Kong from April 12 to May 10.
- According to MSNBC, another young mammoth, named Yuka, with strawberry-blond hair was revealed to the world last week.

Metropolitan Panel

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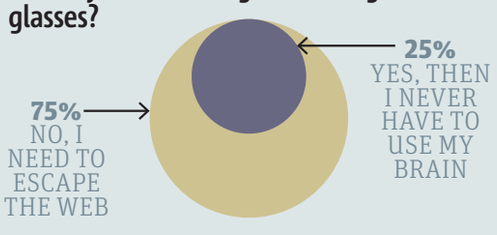
Would you wear Google's new digital glasses?



Twitter

@thechosenonezay: It's so cold in #TORONTO! Where the f-- is the APRIL showers to bring MAY flowers?

@Steve_Dangle: I'm not anti-Burke. I'm just anti-some-of-the-ridiculous-things-Burke-says. Unlike many in Toronto, I don't think he should be fired.

@cbctom: Dispatches now trending. A window on the world closed. Rick MacInnes-Rae & team are proud. When you work here, we all feel the loss.#cbccuts

@AaronBarak: After Santos's performance last night yes it is fair to boo him, but we shouldn't give up on him yet. Guy has an electric arm

@samiraamndan: What freedom of expression in the USA!! Florida Marlins suspend manager Ossie Guillen for saying he "admired Fidel Castro" in an interview"

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"For years, I suffered from unbearable stiffness and swelling in my hands"

"How I BEAT The Pain That Almost Ended My Career!"

By Jaudon Sunde
Medical Cosmetic Technician

For nine long years, I lived in sheer agony. I suffered from inflammation and horrible stiffness in my hands. Unless you've experienced it for yourself, you can't imagine how bad the pain really is. It nearly crippled me and almost ended my career.

As a Medical Micropigmentation Specialist in Cleveland, Ohio, **I need my hands for applying medical tattooing and permanent makeup for cancer patients, burn victims, and for people who need facial reconstruction.**

I was proud that in 2010, FOX 8 TV news viewers voted me the "Best Permanent Cosmetic Technician" in the area and I have consistently ranked in the top 2% nationally.

But suddenly, my career was in danger. I was told that the intense precision of my work combined with the brutal cold winters in Ohio contributed to major stiffness and inflammation.

So naturally, I tried just about every pain remedy and topical cream on the market. Nothing worked. The pain was getting worse and worse.

So for all these years, I got by on a steady regimen of over-the-counter pills. The pain in my hands got so bad that I started taking pain relievers 2-3 times a day. And still my agony persisted.

I was faced with a dreadful choice: Either have the painful surgery on my hands and be laid up for months...or cut my workload in half. I was between a rock and a hard place.

I couldn't afford to do either. I had to find a better way to get real relief.

Then one day at dinner a friend of mine told me that inflammation is worse than I thought. "It's called the 'secret killer,' and for good reason," he said. "Left alone, it can ravage your arteries, chew up nerve cells in your brain, and lead to all kinds of age-related ailments.

"The good news is that researchers at the University of Arizona have now confirmed that the Nopal cactus — found in the Sonoran Desert in the southwest U.S. — has tremendous power. It can help fight off harmful inflammation without risky drugs. And it can help reduce the pain caused by inflammation.

"It turns out that the fruit of this plant is loaded with a special concentration of something called a 'bioflavonoid.' It's a super-powerful antioxidant that scientists believe to be perhaps the best natural anti-inflammatory agent on the planet. And it's **proven to reduce inflammation and detoxify your body naturally."**

He then spoke the words that would change my life. "I think all you need to do is try a fruit drink." I was shocked! How is an ordinary fruit drink going to end my misery? "Well, it's not an ordinary fruit drink. It's called **Nopalea**, a breakthrough wellness drink that contains these incredible bioflavonoids I told you about. Drink it and you'll be amazed how great you're going to feel."

I was skeptical, but I was also desperate. He brought me a bottle and I took a sip. I was shocked that it actually tasted fruity and delicious. I really enjoyed drinking it.

In just 5-6 days, an amazing thing happened. I started to feel much better. My stiffness loosened up and I moved around better than I had in years with no pain.

I was over joyed! The inflammation in my hands showed dramatic improvement. I kept taking 3 ounces of **Nopalea twice a day and after about 30 days, I could perform my duties 95% pain free!**

Even the doctors I work with were amazed at my amazing improvement. I no longer need surgery. I am busier than ever before and I love it!

I also found out that the betalains in **Nopalea** aid my body in healing by surrounding unhealthy cells and draining them of toxic waste.

Jaudon Sunde, Micropigmentation Specialist, says that "Nopalea has been a life-saver in every sense of the word."*

But don't believe me. You must try this drink for yourself. If you're suffering with the same inflammation and pain that I did, you owe it to yourself to get real relief. Once you try **Nopalea**, I know you'll agree that it's the best thing that's happened to you in a long, long time.

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In Focus

Some classic Stooge-filled flicks

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

The Three Stooges — Larry Fine, Curly Howard and brother Moe Howard were the most famous incarnation — "nyuk! nyuk! nyuked!" their way through 220 slapstick movies in a career that spanned the heyday of vaudeville to the 1970s.

This weekend a new trio says "Hello! Hello! Hello!" in The Three Stooges, a Farrelly Brothers directed comedy. But if it's classic Stoogisms you're looking for, check out these movies:

The story of Hoi Polloi was so effective the trio recycled it twice more in the films Half-Wits Holiday and Pies and Guys.

Disorder in the Court casts the boys as star witnesses at the murder trial of their friend, a nightclub dancer.

Curly's favourite film was A Plumbing We Will Go, which featured the guys as plumbers hired to fix a leak in a mansion.

Chris Diamantopoulos, centre, leads the Stooges in the latest version of The Three Stooges franchise. HANDOUT

The lasting effect of physical comedy

The Three Stooges return to the big screen. Chris Diamantopoulos speaks to Metro about his role and the return of slapstick films

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.com

There'll be a lot of eyes on the Farrelly Brothers' The Three Stooges. Not only has the Friday release been a long time in construction, but the Hall Pass filmmakers insist the movie's a dedicated love letter to the slapstick legends.

We caught up to Toronto-born actor Chris Diamantopoulos (TV's 24) to discuss playing the Stooges senseless skipper, Moe Howard.

I know you were a fan but why did you love the Stooges?

It just comes from watching them at such an early age and knowing that my parents loved them. I started watching them when I was five or six years old … there were about 50 or 60 shorts that I knew off by heart and when my parents would want entertainment, I would just recite the whole episodes for them in the summers in Greece (because) we didn't have a TV.

Why do you think physical comedy is so endearing?

There's something universal and timeless when done right about somebody falling, slipping, randomly being hit or poked if it's instigated the right way and if the poke or hit is warranted.

It's just funny — no matter what language you speak and what era, again if it's instigated the right way — it's all about set up, pay off and timing.

The original Stooges are often considered guy's comedy. How is this different?

You're right in saying that men love the Stooges. Although it's funny — going to screenings and talking to people who've seen the movie, I'll tell you the pervading message that I'm getting is that it's the women that are falling in love with this movie…what this movie has that I think will definitely attract women is heart. It's so very emotional. The message is simple but it's really, really sweet.

More quotes

See what Chris Diamantopoulos had to say on a wide variety of subjects.

- **Dressing up for the audition.** "When I found out about the audition, there was a memo that said 'do not arrive in character,' this is a modern take on the Stooges," said Diamantopoulos. "I thought that's stupid, I can't go in and be Moe looking like me."
- **The potential comic superstars.** "They never really got their just desserts," said Diamantopoulos. "By today's standards, especially if back when they were around there was social networking, The Stooges would've been mega-superstars."
- **The Look of Moe.** "There's this term — physiognomy — which basically means the way you're face looks affects how you sound so I had to look that way."

2 SCENE

Scene in brief

Jolie taking on famous villain role

Angelina Jolie is turning wicked as one of Disney's most famous villains in Maleficent, a live-action twist on Sleeping Beauty that's set for release just under two years from now. Walt Disney Studios announced Monday that Maleficent is due in theatres on March 14, 2014. The film will spell out the back story of the evil enchantress in Disney's animated classic Sleeping Beauty.

On the web

Kathleen Turner says Winnipeg play taught her she wasn't "born to play ingenue"

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Maggie Grace in Lockout HANDOUT

Grace under fire

Maggie Grace. Lost actress talks about her new role in Lockout and her accidental ascent as an action star

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Maggie Grace wants to make it clear that while her eye is tearing up, it's not because of anything anyone said. "I'm not crying. I just did a little damage [on set] last night," she says. "I just injured my eye a little bit. I didn't want people to think I was just so emotional."

And then, to undermine her own point, Grace then launches into a tearful speech about how wonderful Lockout co-star Guy Pearce is before breaking down laughing.

Grace, who first rose to fame as the pampered Shannon on Lost, has been following an interestingly physical track with her film career, which is something she hadn't expected.

"It's funny, it's become kind of a theme for me — a string of action movies," she says. "I just wrapped Taken 2 — and I was the girl who would lock myself in the locker room and cry after gym class. So it's just funny what life brings you."

Her latest film, the sci-fi caper Lockout, is a part of that action-heavy trend. "I pretty much looked like a dalmatian," she says about her bruised appearance after filming was completed last autumn in Serbia. Not that she's complaining, of course.

"We arrived in Serbia to start training a little bit early with the wires and do some combat training, so that was really helpful. And also a lot of fun. Probably the closest I'll get to being a trapeze artist myself," she remembers.

And while so much work in the action genre may seem like a happy accident to her, Grace doesn't feel the same way about acting in general.

"I never understand those 'tripped and fell' stories. I don't know how that works," she says, referring to actors who claim they found their vocation by chance.

"Maybe it sounds sort of modest or something, I don't know. But I feel like I've worked really hard to get where I am, and I'm pretty proud of it."

'Don't I know you from...?"

With all the travelling she does — and with parts in two beloved franchises (Lost and Twilight) — Maggie Grace is often stopped by fans.

- **So what's she recognized for most these days?** "Usually Taken lately. For a long time it was Lost, and that still comes up. Those are pretty hard-core fans, the Losties," she says. "But Taken, it's pretty funny. Especially in airports, of course."

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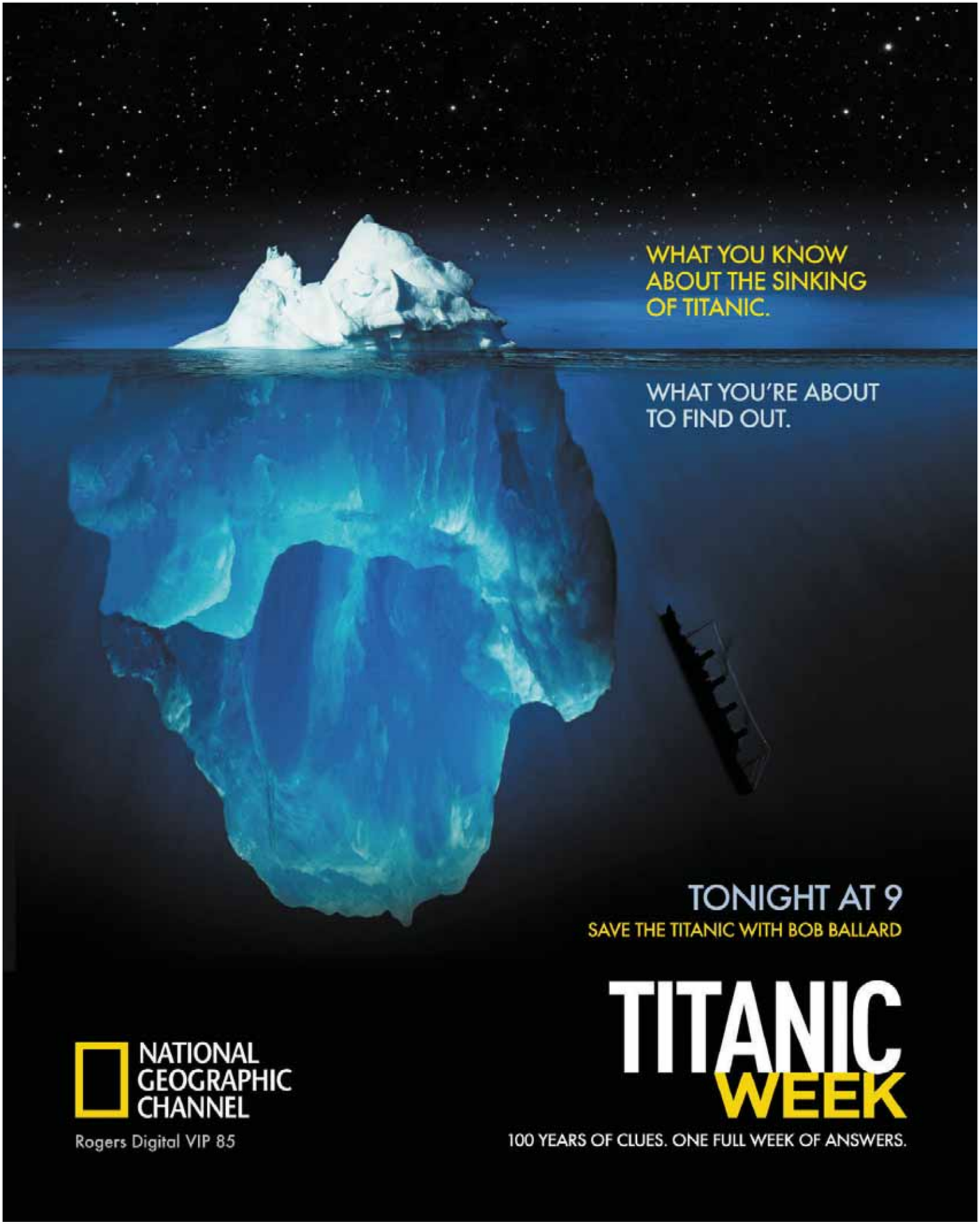
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Hard Core Logo 2. 'Good laughs, awesome music and a reminder life is beautiful'

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Hard Core Logo is as beloved a movie as this country has ever produced. Bruce McDonald's 1996 punk rock road trip movie illustrates the better-to-burn-out-than-to-fade-away ethos in memorable style. It played at Cannes, made Hugh Dillon a film star and gave Canadian punk band Billy Talent their name.

So why did McDonald take almost fifteen years to make Hard Core Logo 2?

"It's a hard question to answer because there isn't a lot of logic to it," he says. "It was more, 'Wow, we had fun making the first one. Let's go back for the fun of it.' Then it was actually just getting around to doing the work. That's the long time aspect of it, getting the energy to actually do the work."

Fate also played a role.

"Timing is a sort of series of triggers where the world seems to offer up elements," he says. "When I met Care Failure (Die Mannequin lead singer and star of HCL2), I thought, she seems to be a female version of Hard Core Logo. Meeting her added this curveball to the world. If we go back there what are we going to do? And suddenly she helped answer that question."

The new film doesn't pick up where the last one so notoriously left off — number one's closing moments are as shocking as they memorable — but instead riffs off the spirit of the original, literally. Failure is a punk rock singer who may be possessed by the spirit of Joe Dick, the character Dillon played in the original.

Bruce McDonald CONTRIBUTED

So what kind of film is it?

- **A mixed bag.** "If you had to genre-ize it," McDonald says, "it would be a personal-doc-rockumenatry-ghost-story. When you are dealing with ghosts and spirits suddenly you're kind of opening a door to bigger questions — spooky questions, mortality questions."

Hard Core Logo 2 has a much different feel than the original, but McDonald hopes fans will go for it.

"There are echoes of the past but it was not a direct aim at the past," he says. "I was wifeless and childless and now there's a big change. I think a lot of people who were fans of the first movie are different now as well. Your current state of being is reflected in the things you are interested in and the stories you are telling."

In the end McDonald hopes the movie provides "good laughs, awesome music and that little reminder that life is beautiful."

Dafoe heads Down Under to stalk tigers

The Hunter. Actor plays a mercenary sent by a biotech company to hunt a sacred animal — that may or may not be extinct

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Eyes on the prize: Dafoe's character struggles to deal with the wilderness as he searches for the Tasmanian tiger. HANDOUT

Filming The Hunter was far from a cinematic cakewalk for Willem Dafoe who was forced to endure the Tasmanian wilderness and even a tumultuous blizzard. But the versatile actor wouldn't have it any other way.

"Who wants to make an easy movie?" the two-time Oscar-nominated film veteran quipped while promoting the drama. "You want to make good movies and hope they come gracefully but easy usually doesn't lend itself well to making interesting things."

Always on the lookout for challenging roles, The Hunter casts Dafoe as a mercenary sent Down Under by a biotech corporation to hunt the assumed-to-be extinct Tasmanian tiger — considered sacred by locals.

Something of a trade-off

"You want to make good movies and hope they come gracefully but easy usually doesn't lend itself well to making interesting things."

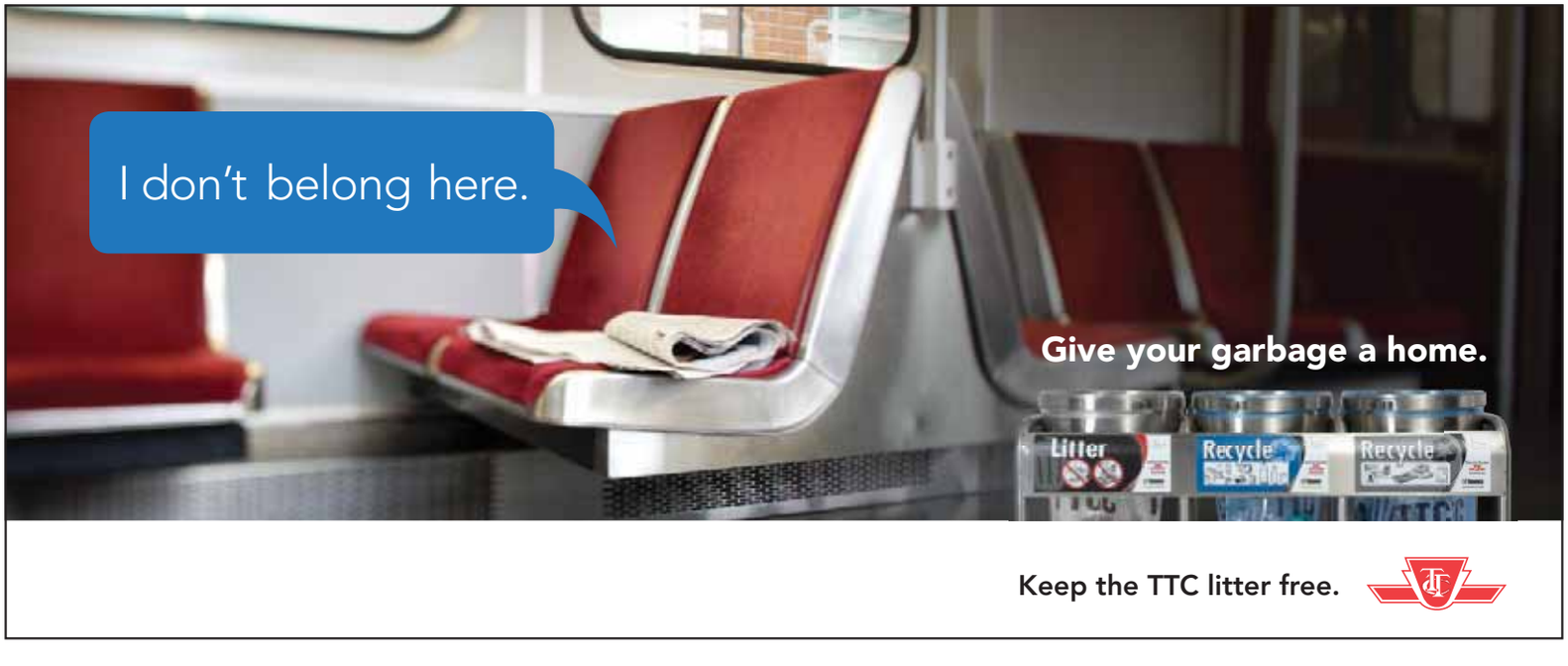
Willem Dafoe

"You hear of Tasmanian devils and that cartoon character pops into your head. I'm embarrassed to say I knew very little about it," laughed Dafoe, admitting he wasn't originally sure if the creature was even historically real.

"There are sightings all the time because I think people hope that there's some sign that they can recapture something of the past that's been destroyed by colonization and development."

While his character in The Hunter (in theatres April 13) struggles with the morality and demands of the wilderness and landscape, Dafoe insists it's not necessarily the message of any film that attracts him but strictly the strength of the role.

"The questions that are raised in the film — I don't know those," said Dafoe. "I'm always attracted to being the odd man out and this is a very Australian story and I play a foreigner; I play the guy from out of town that comes in and that's an interesting place to be in the function of a film because you become the go-between between the audience and this world."



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One to watch: The Queen of Versailles documents the construction of America's biggest house. HANDOUT

Hot Docs are so much cooler than watching Netflix in your pj's

Stage notes. Toronto's world-class film festival

JONATHAN NAYMARK
scene@metronews.ca

If you haven't sat in the dark since your laser eye surgery, now is the time: Hot Docs, Canada's International Documentary Festival, is scheduled to run this year from April 26 to May 6.

This year's festival will take place in the organization's new and permanent stage: the revitalized Bloor Hot Docs Cinema.

After a seven-month renovation the historic Bloor Cinema, built on Bloor Street in 1941, reopened last month as the Bloor Hot Docs Cinema.

This year's Festival will screen 189 docs from over 50 countries making it the largest documentary film festival and marketplace in North America.

Highlights from this year's Hot Docs include the Canadian premiere of Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry, which offers viewers a very personal vignette on the Chinese activist and artist, Ai Weiwei.

Other highlights include The Queen of Versailles, which documents the construction of the America's largest house, a fanciful recreation of the Palace of Versailles, by an eccentric American billionaire whose housing crisis is compounded by America's subprime crisis.

Tickets for Hot Docs films, which will be viewed both at the Bloor Hot Docs Cinema as well as other venues located throughout the downtown area, are only $14.50 and can be bought from the The Hot Docs documentary Box Office at 783 Bathurst St., at hotdocs.ca, or by phone at 416-637-5150. Multi-film passes are also available.

The HotDocs program guide detailing all 189 films can also be downloaded via the Hot Docs website.

Great excuses to eat popcorn

189

This year's Hot Docs Festival will screen 189 docs from over 50 countries making it the largest documentary film festival and marketplace in North America.

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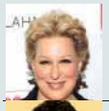
Wiig won't tip hand to SNL departure

Kristen Wig

Kristen Wiig is playing coy with the rumors of leaving Saturday Night Live at the end of this season, only confirming that her contract is up this year.

"Well, everyone has to leave," she tells Alec Baldwin on his podcast. "I will say that when I do leave it's not because I'm sick of it and not because I see something better or anything like that. It's just that it's time."

Twitter



@BetteMidler
Jeez! I just bumped into a crowd a people all looking down at their devices!! Look up, people!!

@ralphmacchio
Taking in some broadway today. Vintage musical theatre on the menu.

@MJMcKean
Emmy show producers: please please PLEASE let J Lo announce the Downton Abbey nominations.

@SarahKSilverman
Worrying u don't get the respect u deserve is a great way to ensure you'll never get the respect u deserve

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Rinna making adult diapers cool

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Maybe you've seen Lisa Rinna star in a new Depend adult diapers commercial. But in case you haven't, here's the recap: The 48-year-old is filmed wearing a skintight black dress on the red carpet, but, surprise, she's also wearing Depend's new Silhouette for Women line underneath that dress.

"I am wearing an evening gown, for God's sake!" she says in the commercial. "And you can't tell I have it on. Check out the boo-tay!"

She then commands her poor husband Harry Hamlin to touch her tush to check it out for himself.

Surprising? Yes. Commercials for adult diapers are not the most, say, sexy of things to star in. But Rinna swears she's not talking about incontinence in order to keep herself in lip injections — she did it for charity and women's rights.

"They donated $225,000 to Dress for Success if I tried them on in the commercial," the actress told the Huffington Post, meaning she must have pocketed a little extra on top of that donation. "That's why I did it. Plus, I loved their campaign."

It's not wearing an adult diaper that makes me roll my eyes — it's the fact that she used the word boo-tay to describe her butt.

Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus blames weight loss on allergies

Miley Cyrus is striking back against critics who speculate she has an eating disorder.

"For everyone calling me anorexic, I have a gluten and lactose allergy. It's not about weight — it's about health," Cyrus posted on Twitter. "'She won't eat 2,000 calories worth of food in one sitting? She must have a problem.' I ate today at Easter lunch but all of it was healthy and even more fulfilling! Health is happiness!"

In fact, Cyrus thinks her food allergy has been a great thing — and is encouraging her fans to dump gluten.

"Everyone should try no gluten for a week! The change in your skin, physical and mental health is amazing! You won't go back," she posted.

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3 LIFE

Travel in brief

Tasmanian tourism banking on Dafoe flick

Tasmanian tourism officials are hoping for spinoffs from The Hunter, a thriller starring Willem Dafoe being released this month in North American cinemas. The film was shot entirely in the Australian island state. Some of the wild locales are highlighted online at Discover Tasmania (http://bit.ly/HakKOp), the state's official tourism website. The Hunter follows Dafoe as he pursues the last Tasmanian tiger. The dog-sized beast has, in fact, been officially extinct for many years, but Discover Tasmania says there have continued to be "countless sightings, some by highly regarded scientists," and is inviting visitors to trek wilderness trails in search of a real-life specimen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Bruce Willis says he's willing to give away Idaho ski area to a non-profit

Sunshine and snow — the perfect spring combination

Whistler. Pack your sunscreen and ski gear because the slopes are still open. There's plenty to do for non-skiers, too.

AURÉLIE RESCH
life@metronews.ca

Skiing or snowboarding in a T-shirt? An après-ski drink on the patio while you work on your tan? BBQ's at 6,000 feet? That's springtime in Whistler. Although the weather is warming, there are still lots of great activities and attractions — not to mention spring prices and rates — to take advantage of!

Spring skiing/snowboarding is the perfect mix of sunshine and snow. The snow is melting elsewhere but high up on the mountains, the conditions are still great for those who can't get enough of the slopes. This year, the spring ski season extends through April on Whistler Mountain and through May on Blackcomb Mountain.

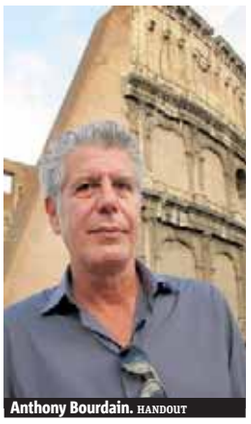
In June when mountain biking takes over Whistler, the hardcore skiers (or those who appreciate a little novelty) can continue to ski on Blackcomb Glacier.

For those looking for a less physically strenuous activity at Whistler, black bear watching is one option.

Whistler is home to up to 70 black bears who can be seen coming out of hibernation on the grassy slopes of the mountains during mid-to-late spring and throughout summer. Starting mid-May, visitors can take part in a black bear viewing tour from the safety of 4x4 vehicles, where experienced nature guides will lead you to popular bear viewing spots.

Nothing feels better than getting a tan on a ski hill. PHOTOS: AURÉLIE RESCH/METRO

Montreal's Au Pied de Cochon. JOEY DAVILLA/FLICKR



Anthony Bourdain. HANDOUT

Anthony Bourdain loves Montreal

Quebec. Chef, author and TV personality can't get enough of the food, friends and fun times in Montreal

It's Montreal. I love Monreal. I have a personal relationship with Dave McMillan at Joe Beef and Martin Picard at Au Pied de Cochon. I love their food and the way they run their businesses. Their passion for great food and ingredients is infectious. It's great to be in a city that passionately supports great food. My love for Montreal starts with them, they have great places to eat and drink.

The Layover

Anthony Bourdain hosts The Layover, making it's Canadian Debut tonight at 10 p.m. on Travel+Escape. Go to travelandescape.ca/watch/the-layover for a chance to win a Bourdain style layover in one of the ten cities from the show.

Postcards from the planet

Petra, Jordan

April 7, 2012

WATCH AND LEARN MORE ABOUT HEATHER'S FAMILY ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL TIPS AT WHERE PARENTSTALK.COM

The kids didn't complain (much) when I said that we would be walking for miles through sky-high rocks but they didn't leap at the chance either. Though when the pink glow at the end of the winding entryway caught their eye, energy levels soared. For about seven hours they ran, hiked and climbed more than 900 stairs conquering another world wonder. Around every corner there was another "Whoa" and "That's awesome" and not one "Are we there yet?" Mission. Accomplished.

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Departs Apr 15/sqv/qk.

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Friendly Vallarta (Cameleon) — + taxes & fees $347
Departs Apr 14/nol/c6.

Cancun 7 Nights 4-Star — $285
Oasis Palm — + taxes & fees $357
Departs Apr 13/swg/wg.

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star — $295
Be Live Turquesa — + taxes & fees $290
Departs Apr 16/swg/wg.

Los Cabos 7 Nights 4-Star — $305
Holiday Inn Resort Los Cabos — + taxes & fees $357
Departs Apr 13/swg/wg.

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star — $395
Grand Paradise Bavaro — + taxes & fees $386
Departs Apr 13/acv/ac.

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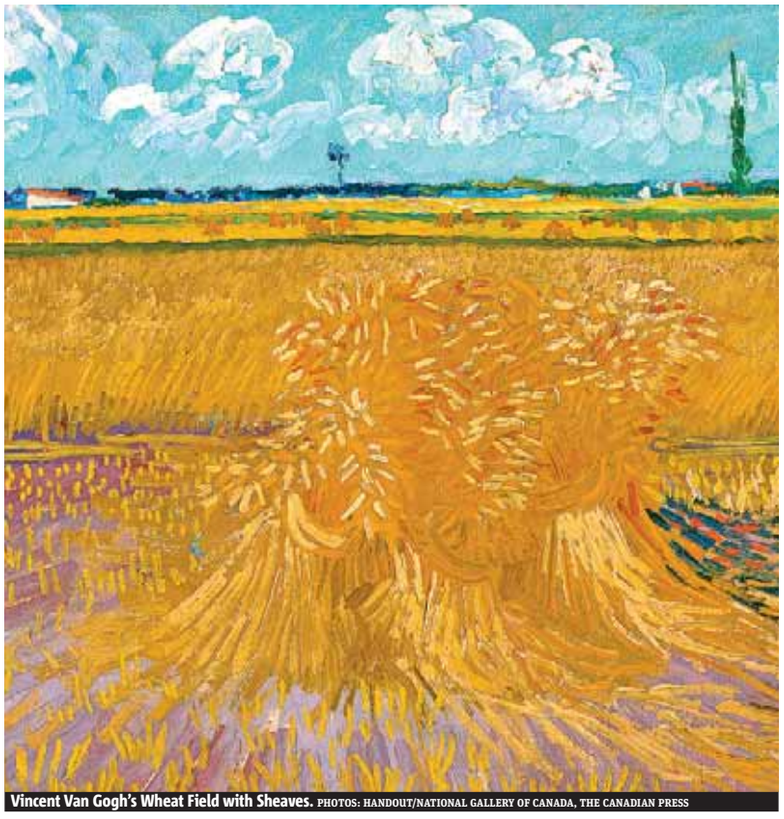
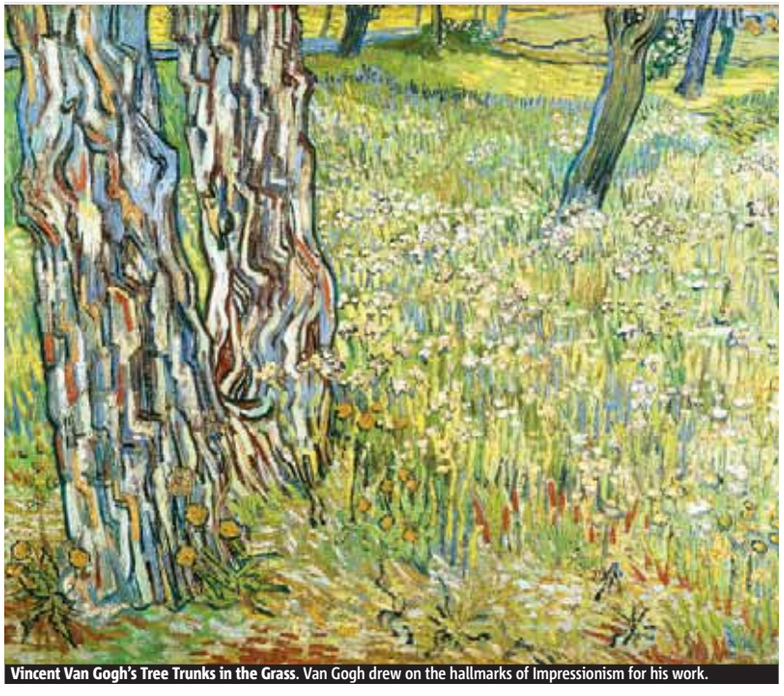


Vincent Van Gogh's Wheat Field with Sheaves. PHOTOS: HANDOUT/NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA, THE CANADIAN PRESS



Vincent Van Gogh's Tree Trunks in the Grass. Van Gogh drew on the hallmarks of Impressionism for his work.

Van Gogh set to bloom in Ottawa exhibit this spring

National Gallery of Canada. A lot of legwork went into gathering pieces for exhibit — be sure to see them 'Up Close'

The most difficult part of mounting a major Vincent Van Gogh exhibition in Ottawa, says Anabelle Kienle, was persuading galleries around the globe to loan out their treasured pieces.

"It was a very tough thing because Van Gogh's paintings are beloved. And when people come to institutions those are the paintings they want to see," said Kienle, co-curator of Van Gogh: Up Close, opening next month at the National Gallery of Canada.

"It took us several appeals, often, for one painting. We really travelled the world to convince those lenders to part with these pictures."

Art lovers eager to learn more about the post-Impressionist master's compelling interpretations of the natural world will be glad to know Kienle and her colleagues succeeded in borrowing his paintings that usually hang in galleries everywhere from Amsterdam to Honolulu.

The exhibition of 45 carefully selected canvases will be the first sizable display of the Dutch artist's work in Canada in more than a quarter century.

It was co-organized by the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where the exhibition is currently displayed.

The show, which appears in Ottawa from May 25 to Sept. 3, focuses on Van Gogh's detailed depiction of nature in the paintings he produced in France during the final three-and-a-half, often trying, years of his life.

Upon moving to Paris in 1886, Van Gogh drew on the hallmarks of Impressionism, incorporating vivid colour and bold brush work into his painting. He also began experimenting with perspective and presentation, creating still-life images and outdoor scenes without a traditional background, focusing instead on blossoms, sheaves and tree trunks.

The idea for the show sprang from a conversation six years ago between Kienle, the National Gallery's assistant curator of European and American art, and longtime associate Cornelia Homburg, an independent scholar in France and guest curator on the project.

Homburg noted the National Gallery had long held Van Gogh's well-known 1889 work Iris, painted soon after he admitted himself to an asylum with a walled garden in St-Remy-de-Provence. The iconic picture, a lively burst of green and blue, is emblematic of the close-up views of trees, flowers and fields that came to characterize his later style.

"I actually noticed that this is something that Van Gogh has done in his work, but nobody has ever addressed it in scholarship," said Kienle.

Iris and the 1886 work Bowl with Zinnias and Other Flowers are the National Gallery's contributions to the exhibition.

"It's always nice as a curator if you have paintings in your collection that you can use as a starting point," said Kienle.

"That's the ideal, so that you frame what the Canada collection already has in a new light — so that people also see a painting in a different context and appreciate it even more."

Van Gogh's oeuvre was largely unappreciated during his lifetime, and it is believed he shot himself at age 37. He left more than 2,000 artworks and a trove of revealing letters, including many to his dear brother Theo, an art dealer.

Today he is known not only as a primary influence on leading 20th-century painters, but as a complex artist whose work beguiles gallery-goers and commands staggering prices at auction.

"He's a daunting figure for any art historian because he's been studied in such depth, and he's so incredibly versatile and somebody who's very hard to grasp," said Kienle.

She hopes visitors come away from the exhibition with a fresh perspective on the artist as a "very deliberate thinker" on a quest to establish himself as a modern painter.

"Many people have a very visceral response to Van Gogh," she said. "And the excitement that's already building is a testament to that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go...

- **Van Gogh: Up Close.** May 25 to Sept. 3, 2012. National Gallery of Canada, 380 Sussex Dr., Ottawa. Daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays to 8 p.m. Last ticket of the day issued 90 minutes before exhibition's closing.
- **Buy tickets online.** At gallery.ca/vangogh/en/32.htm
- **Further reading.** The exhibition catalogue can be ordered in advance online. See the website for information on associated lectures, hands-on activities, music, and children's workshop.

Embrace la vida loca and hit up these five party spots in Latin America

Sun and fun. Head south to get your fill of beaches, bodegas and bronzed beauties in some places you might have never considered

PAUL IRVINE
life@metronews.ca

As the party season starts to seriously heat up in South America, Paul Irvine, director of luxury Latin America travel specialists Dehouche (dehouche.com), gives the inside scoop on the hottest places to cut loose.

Buenos Aires is known as the Paris of Latin America. LATITUD 48/FLICKR

Cartagena is one of Latin America's most beautiful cities. SZEKE/FLICKR

Punta del Este, Uruguay

Combine long, rolling stretches of stunning coastline with understated elegance and legendary private parties and you have yourself a recipe for success that has turned Punta del Este into one of the world's hottest spots for some fun in the sun.

Party: After turning on the charm to talk your way into the best of the private parties, head to nightclub Tequila on Calle 11 La Barra, which has floor-to-ceiling disco balls.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

With wide, tree-lined avenues, a thriving cultural scene and sophisticated nightlife, Buenos Aires deserves its reputation as the Paris of Latin America. During summer months, the city springs to life. Jet-set polo players mix with international rock stars and the beautiful locals who flit from secret cocktail bars to open-air nightclubs.

Party: Our favourite hidden haunt is cocktail bar Franks. Armed with a secret password, you need to punch a code into the keypad of a British telephone box, and upon whispering the magic words, the door will swing open to reveal a Prohibition-style bar, complete with chandeliers and an impressive lineup of DJs (franks-bar.com).

Buzios, Brazil

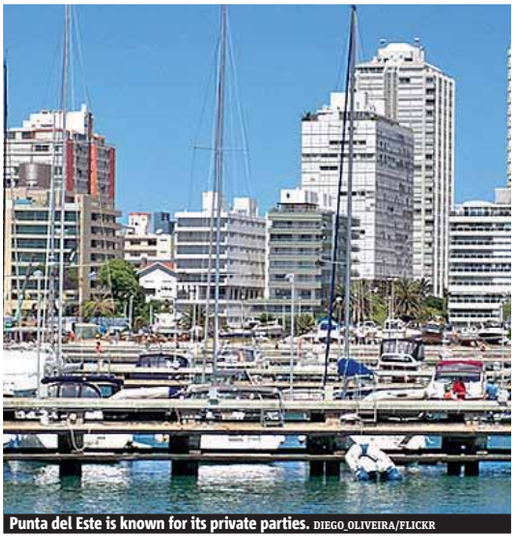
Located two hours down the coast from Rio de Janeiro, Buzios is the epitome of laid-back, barefoot beach chic and attracts both a heady mix of Brazilian glitterati and an international crowd drawn to its myriad beautiful beaches.

Party: Set on a beautifully rugged horseshoe bay where the rhythmic pattern of waves draws the local surfers, Rocka is the definition of the perfect beach lounge. Dream away the afternoon drinking caipirinhas on loungers until after sunset, when the deck transforms into a dance floor (rockafish.com).

Cartagena, Colombia

The glistening jewel of the Caribbean, Cartagena well deserves its reputation as one of Latin America's most beautiful cities. Its sun-dappled squares house a fantastic selection of boutique hotels and bars.

Party: Slip outside the city to Bar Havana. The old-school bar serves the best mojitos outside Cuba and live salsa bands play into the night (cafehavanacartagena.com).



Punta del Este is known for its private parties. DIEGO_OLIVEIRA/FLICKR

If you're not tired...

Trancoso, Brazil

A former hippie town at the heart of the Brazilian Bahia coastline, Trancoso's winning combination of beautiful beaches, lilting, laid-back rhythm and vibrant social scene have turned it into a favourite hideaway for the international jet set.

Party: During the high season, Brazil's best clubs descend on Trancoso to host pop-up events on the beach with a stellar lineup of international DJs.

Buzios is the epitome of laid-back, barefoot beach chic. ALVAZER/FLICKR

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Top travel tips. Advice for students hoping to learn in another land

• Immerse yourself in the culture: a large part of studying abroad is to experience another culture. You can broaden your perspective by learning the local language, making friends with domestic students and researching the country's history and cultural practices.

• Take rewarding academic courses: take advantage of the interesting courses not offered at your home school. Some courses are also more interesting when they are learned abroad — imagine learning art history in France or taking Italian in Italy!

TRACY ZHANG

Worldliness at work

Leverage the experience professionally

- Having an international experience on the resumé can help you stand out in the workforce. Even if it doesn't help you connect with potential employers, at the very least it makes for an interesting discussion in an interview setting. Some of my friends who studied abroad also networked with alumni in the country and landed international job offers.

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Travel became my teacher: On education in another nation

Books in a backpack.

How studying abroad can benefit you both academically and professionally

TRACY ZHANG
Talentegg.ca

From watching the sun set over the Acropolis in Athens to watching the Christmas lights light up Champs-Elysée, some of my best memories are from studying abroad.

The strength of its international exchange program was one of the reasons I chose to study at the Queen's University School of Business, and I was determined to make the most out of the opportunity by spending two semesters abroad.

In September of 2010, I set out to study in France at HEC Paris International Business School; by January 2011, I had bid France farewell and headed for England, where I studied at the Bader International Study Centre.

Tracy Zhang and friends in Athens, Greece. SUBMITTED

I enrolled in an international policy course taught by a Harvard professor, a class on French culture and another on French society. By the end of the semester, not only did I learn how to do business in France, but I also gained a strong understanding of the French education system, government, economy and, of course, gastronomy.

When it was time to go to the U.K., I became so interested in the business landscape in Europe that I decided to pursue my undergrad degree specialization in international business.

Outside of the classroom, I was anxious to explore Europe since it was my first time there. I invested in a train pass on a student discount and journeyed all over the continent — to 19 countries to be exact. As a way to document my travels, I also began to publish photographs from my trips on my blog.

When my blog's following edged past 700 subscribers, I began to receive emails from magazines and tourism boards asking to publish my photographs. Studying and travelling in Europe not only opened the door for me to freelance as a photographer, but also helped me connect with many other travel enthusiasts.

Business abroad

When it was time to go to the U.K., I became so interested in the business landscape in Europe that I decided to pursue my undergrad degree specialization in international business."

Tracy Zhang

After I returned home from Europe to begin my summer internship, I learned that my manager had just moved to Canada from France. We immediately bonded over my exchange experience in Paris. Having that common ground allowed me to build great rapport with my manager, who provided me with constant professional support throughout the summer.

When I look back on my time in Europe, I feel lucky to have been able to explore another continent, enrich my academic life, and leverage the experience in the workplace. My year abroad benefited me immensely — I can't imagine my university education any other way!

TRACY ZHANG IS A FOURTH YEAR STUDENT AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY. TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADS, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT TALENTEGG.CA.

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Student Voice

Planet professional

Beau Sangassapaviriya
Bachelor of Commerce Graduate
University of Toronto
TalentEgg.ca

Like most students, I had always felt that I wanted to be able to travel the world once I was done school.

However, I was also anxious to start my career and be able to fund my travels so that I would gain valuable work experience while visiting new places.

Around the time of my final exams, a new AIESEC internship became available: it was an opportunity for 20 Canadians to work abroad in Brazil for eight months with a global mining company.

After a multi-step selection process, through both AIESEC and the mining company, in August I was on a plane to the "cidade maravilhosa" of Rio de Janeiro. I made a lot of new friends while abroad, had the opportunity to tour around Brazil as well as Argentina, and have learned not only Portuguese but gained valuable life experiences.

Travel meets travail

A cultural classroom.
Translating lessons learned on the road into the working world

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU
Talentegg.ca

Justine Abigail Yu SUBMITTED

Travelling, for all its splendour, entails hardship. And hardship brings out skills, qualities and lessons that'll prove to be invaluable in the workforce. Here are two I learned while on the road…

You've got to be enterprising.
The word itself reeks of business savvy, doesn't it? But seriously, when you're on the road in some foreign country with nothing but a backpack and a few bucks in your bank account, you've got no choice but to be enterprising and resourceful.

You may very well find yourself in a small town in Italy with no place to sleep for one night because of some error in your accommodation booking. What do you do? You talk to hostel owners and receptionists to see if they have any inside hookups. Or if worse comes to worst, you sleep in the train station for one night. Whatever the case, you do what you can and make the most out of the situation.

The same is true in a business context. There'll always be a time when you've got limited resources, time or knowledge but you've got to muster up all of your creativity and find a way to work with what you've got. And trust me, there is always a way.

Cultural sensitivity and communication is everything.
Learning how to say something as simple as thank you in Khmer or Thai (aw kuhn or khob-kun-Ka, respectively) while bowing your head deeply to show your utmost respect goes a long way. Awareness of people's cultural, spiritual and religious traditions is a trait that is not only important in the workforce but in life in general. In our highly globalized world, where we are in contact with individuals with such varied backgrounds, communicating with cultural sensitivity and understanding can set you apart from many others who have not had this first-hand experience overseas.

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU IS A COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL BY DAY AND A FREELANCE WRITER BY NIGHT.

Twitter

@TalentEgg: Do you have any plans to to work or study#abroad this year? Tell us about it so we can live vicariously!

@ncliteur I'm currently studying abroad in The Netherlands and will be going on exchange with#AIESEC this summer! #mylifeabroad

@JToadere: going to be studying an International Marketing course abroad in Italy and possibly also visiting Korea and Japan! :D #excited

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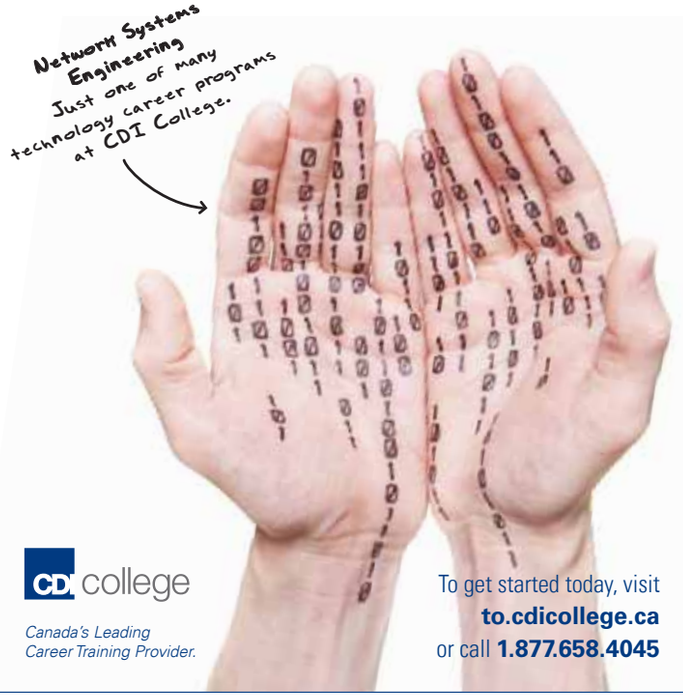

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Anna Olson makes sweet endings a little bit sweeter

Anna Olson films her new series out of her own kitchen in the Niagara, Ont. area. She often donates extra treats to local shelters and hospices. HANDOUT

DELIA MACPHERSON
For Metro Canada

Anna Olson sums up how she stays in such great shape (despite all the sweets) in one word: balance.

"I love my breakfasts," she says. "I eat oatmeal. It keeps me from snacking on the wrong things throughout the day."

Like decadent cookies and moist cakes? "It's not good to deny yourself a treat, just like it's not good to over indulge," adds the celebrity chef, whose new show, Bake with Anna Olson, starts airing Thursday on the Food Network Canada.

The show features baking tips that have taken Olson years to figure out, like using a whisk to fold egg whites into batter rather than a spatula, or double-checking your measuring spoons and cups for accuracy. "You'd be surprised on how many are wrong," she says.

Olson recommends that if you're going to eat sweets, bake them yourself, because homemade baked goods taste better than store-bought and don't have overly processed ingredients. "Baking at home means you control the ingredients, so you know exactly what's going in," she says. "When you're baking, you bake to share."

Making homemade, she adds, can also allow you to control the portions. For example, make cookies twice as small so you only eat half a portion.

Bake with Anna Olson also airs on Saturdays.

Top 5 Pie Crust Tips

1. Relax and don't listen to your inner negativity.
2. Don't add too much water and don't let it get too warm.
3. Follow the recipe. If it calls for ice-cold butter, it probably needs ice-cold water too.
4. You don't need fancy tools. Pie pastry can be brought together with two knives.
5. Practice makes perfect.

Pie Dough. This crust is ideal with wet fillings like coconut cream

This recipe is designed for pies that have a wet filling, such as pumpkin, coconut cream and butter tarts. Make a half recipe if you just need a single crust.

1. Combine flour, sugar and salt in a bowl. Cut in butter by hand with pastry cutter until only small pieces of butter are visible and mix begins to take on pale yellow colour.

2. Stir water and lemon juice together. Add to dough, mixing until the dough just comes together. Shape dough into two discs, wrap and chill for at least two hours before rolling. Alternatively, dough can be frozen for up to three months and thawed in the fridge before rolling.

COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK CANADA (FROM EPISODE 2 OF BAKE WITH ANNA OLSON, AIRING APRIL 12)

Ingredients

- 2 ¼ cups cake & pastry flour
- 2 tbsp sugar
- ¾ tsp salt
- 1 cup cold unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- 6 tbsp cold water
- 1 tbsp lemon juice

MLB

Jays' bats come alive to even series with Sox

Catcher J.P. Arencibia's bases-loaded single highlighted a three-run sixth inning as the Toronto Blue Jays defeated the Boston Red Sox 7-3 on Tuesday night.

Arencibia's blast to centre field off reliever Justin Thomas scored two runs and helped Toronto even its three-game series with Boston, delighting the Rogers Centre crowd of 26,251.

On Monday night, an enthusiastic sellout of 48,473 watched the Red Sox rally for a 4-2 victory to spoil the Blue Jays' home opener.

Designated-hitter Edwin Encarnacion homered for Toronto (3-2).

Arencibia came into the sixth hitting a paltry .059. His one hit before Tuesday was a dramatic three-run homer in the 16th inning that earned Toronto a season-opening 7-4 win over Cleveland on April 5.

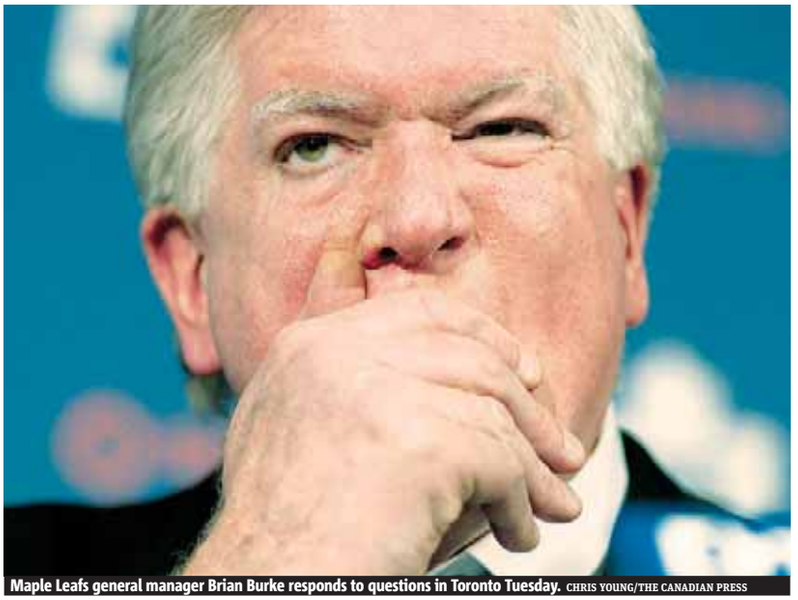
The Blue Jays' three-run outburst made a winner of Kyle Drabek (1-0). The right-hander looked solid over five shutout innings before getting into trouble in the sixth, giving up a leadoff walk to Jacoby Ellsbury and a double to Dustin Pedroia.

He left after 5 1-3 innings, giving up three hits, one earned run and three walks while fanning four. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays starter Kyle Drabek
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maple Leafs brass say their sorries

NHL. But GM Burke isn't giving up on his hard-luck roster



Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke responds to questions in Toronto Tuesday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shaken, humbled and apologetic. This is the Toronto Maple Leafs as they've seldom been seen.

General manager Brian Burke capped another failed season Tuesday by echoing the mea culpa issued from other key members of the organization that now owns the NHL's longest playoff drought of eight years.

"We have the best fans in the National Hockey League and all of pro sports and we need to deliver more," Burke said during a 30-minute session with reporters. "That loyalty needs to be rewarded."

His remarks followed an open letter to fans from Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment chairman Larry Tanenbaum that ran in newspapers and on the team's website, asking for forgiveness.

A similar note was sent to season ticket holders. Tom Anselmi, MLSE's chief operating officer, provided his email address to each member of that group and pledged to speak with each concerned member.

From top to bottom, the franchise is clearly embarrassed by its performance, and it went to great lengths to try to reassure the paying public. The Leafs may have sold out every home game for as long as anyone can remember, but they say don't want to be seen as taking that loyalty for granted.

"This is about winning, this is about doing right by your fans, this is what we're all into this for," said Anselmi. "Sports is a business, yeah, but it's a business based on emotion and passion and caring."

Quoted

"This has been agonizing.... I haven't slept in a month, two months. If fans think they're disappointed, I can assure you the general manager is far more disappointed."

Brian Burke, Maple Leafs GM

The Leafs were not nearly good enough this season, at least over the final two months. They won just 10 of 33 games after the all-star break and missed the playoffs by 12 points in the Eastern Conference.

Burke made sure to steer well clear of the panic button in his state-of-the-union address Tuesday, saying that his vision for building a winning team remains unchanged from the day he arrived in November 2008.

But this was far from a typical performance for the franchise's most powerful voice, who still seems to be coming to grips with the lack of success during his tenure. Burke famously dismissed the need for a five-year rebuilding plan the day he was hired.

"I'm trying to build a championship team here and that's very hard to see today," said Burke. "But the building blocks, the keys that you need — the Phil Kessels, the Joffrey Lupuls, the Jake Gardiners, the Dion Phaneufs, the second line — all those things have been put in place.

"And that's what can't be overlooked as you analyze and dissect a season. Even a season that's marked by failure. I think we're going in the right direction." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leafs get 5th pick

The Edmonton Oilers won the NHL draft lottery Tuesday night in Toronto.

- Edmonton will get to pick first overall in the league's annual amateur draft for the third year in a row.
- The Columbus Blue Jackets will pick second, followed by the Montreal Canadiens, New York Islanders and Toronto Maple Leafs.

4 SPORTS

Toronto FC

"It's not going to take weeks with him. He's very close to coming back."

Toronto FC manager Aron Winter speaking of Torsten Frings on Tuesday. Winter said his captain is "a couple of days" away from returning from the strained hamstring that has sidelined him since the season opener in Seattle on March 17. Asked if Frings could play Saturday against Chivas USA (2-3-0), Winter replied: "That, we have to wait (and see)." At 0-4-0, Toronto needs something to kick-start its season. Winter's side has yet to register a point in MLS play this season.

"I'm still confident, I've got all the belief with the other games that we have, that we're going to get a lot of points to get to the playoffs."

Aron Winter

On the web

Canada hammered Russia at the women's world hockey championship on Tuesday, but Canadian captain Hayley Wickenheiser wasn't satisfied — particularly with the Russian hockey federation. Scan the code for the story.

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Let the Flyers-Pens 'bloodbath' begin

NHL. Crosby, Malkin downplay Flyers' trash talk ahead of Game 1

Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin spent last spring watching their Pittsburgh Penguins teammates try to carry on without them, a burden that became too much during a seven-game loss to upstart Tampa Bay in the opening round.

A year later, the helpless feeling of trudging around in a suit while the franchise they expected to carry to a Stanley Cup floundered on the ice below them remains fresh.

The memory of the long ride down the elevator from the press box to the quiet dressing room following a listless 1-0 defeat in Game 7 is why Crosby never considered shutting it down this season despite a 15-month battle with concussion-like symptoms while Malkin became arguably the best player in the world while playing on a completely rebuilt knee.

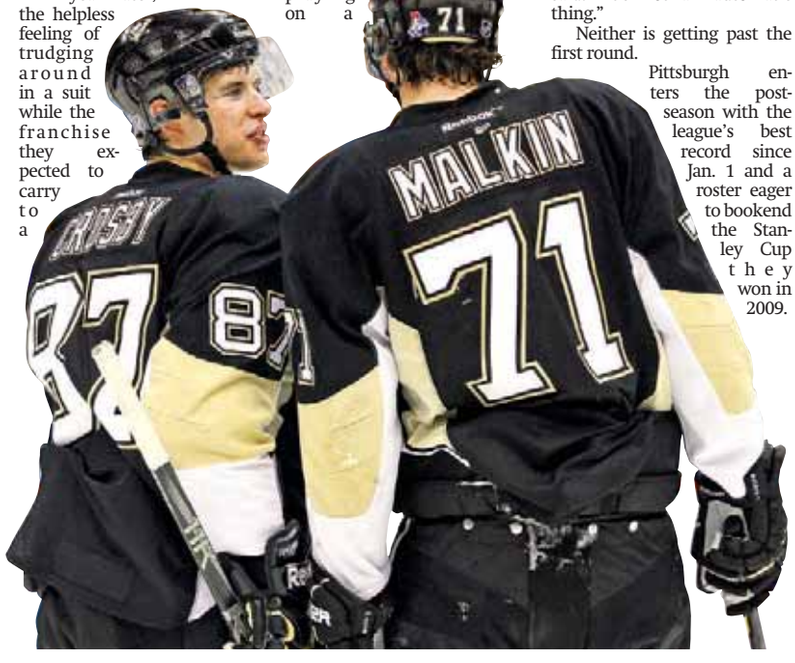
It's also why neither player is eager to engage in a war of words with rival Philadelphia in the run-up to Pittsburgh's first-round meeting with the Flyers starting Wednesday.

The opponent is almost immaterial to two players used to writing "playoffs" on their calendar every season in ink, not pencil.

"I think, if anything, you just appreciate being in the playoffs even more," Crosby said. "It's not an automatic thing."

Neither is getting past the first round.

Pittsburgh enters the postseason with the league's best record since Jan. 1 and a roster eager to bookend the Stanley Cup they won in 2009.



Quoted

"You know, I'm not afraid of anything. I'm afraid of bears — bears in the forest."

Flyers goalie Ilya Bryzgalov on the series vs. the Penguins.

Meanwhile, Philadelphia traded veterans Jeff Carter and Mike Richards following a second-round loss to Boston last year, yet barely missed a beat.

The players change but the mindset in Philadelphia does not. The Flyers are still aggressive, both on the ice and in front of a microphone.

Coach Peter Laviolette didn't hesitate to call Pittsburgh's Dan Bylsma "gutless" for sending out a checking line in the late stages of a 6-4 Philadelphia win on April 1, a move that led to a brawl following Joe Vitale's punishing — if clean — hit on Philadelphia's Danny Briere.

Perhaps, but the Flyers have a way of getting underneath the skin of an opponent. Forward Scott Hartnell embraces the villain role better than any player in the league.

He talked openly about wanting to punch Malkin, Crosby and defenceman Kris Letang in the face if given the opportunity and has predicted the series will turn into a "bloodbath." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks. Sedin's status up in the air ahead of Game 1

The Vancouver Canucks kick off the NHL playoffs Wednesday night against the Los Angeles Kings, but whether Daniel Sedin will be on the ice remains a mystery.

The Canucks star was a no-show at practice but skated with a few teammates afterward. He had been scheduled to speak to reporters, a session the club promoted on its website beforehand. But he was not made available.

Daniel Sedin GETTY IMAGES/FILE

"It's a unique injury, and he will continue the protocol," said coach Alain Vigneault. "When he's ready to play, he'll address you. Until that time, he won't talk to you."

Hopes were raised Monday when Sedin, out with a concussion since March 21, practised with the team for the first time since he was injured. While he didn't speak to the media, his teammate and twin brother Henrik said he was "100 per cent." Daniel Sedin was expected to take part in his second team workout Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Capitals. Third-stringer Holtby expected to start

Braden Holtby GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Washington Capitals goalie Michal Neuvirth is uncertain whether he'll be able to play in the first-round playoff series against the Boston Bruins.

Neuvirth returned to practice Tuesday for the first time since injuring his left leg last week, but wasn't able to stay on the ice. Asked if he thinks he'll play against Boston, he said: "I don't have the answer."

Tomas Vokoun is more pessimistic. He skated before practice on his injured groin and said: "I'm disappointed as anyone that it turned out this way, but I try and I just can't do it. It's a groin, and for a goalie that's essential."

Third-choice Braden Holtby is expected to make his playoff debut in Game 1 in Boston on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rangers (1) vs. Senators (8)

Season series: Ottawa went 3-1-0.

Lowdown: The Senators exceeded expectations and believe they're in position to pull off an upset. The Sens had success against a Rangers team that was the class of the East. New York, led by goalie Henrik Lundqvist, boasts a less potent attack than the Sens.

Pick: Rangers in six.

Bruins (2) vs. Capitals (7)

Season series: Washington went 3-1-0.

Lowdown: The Bruins begin their quest for another cup against a Capitals team that could be dangerous with Nicklas Backstrom and Mike Green returning from injuries. Key players Tim Thomas, Zdeno Chara, Patrice Bergeron and the emerging Tyler Seguin remain in Boston.

Pick: Bruins in six.

Panthers (3) vs. Devils (6)

Season series: Florida went 2-1-1.

Lowdown: The Panthers finished with fewer points but got the higher seed by winning their division. The Devils' Ilya Kovalchuk is the series' best player but has played in just nine playoff games.

Pick: Devils in five.

Penguins (4) vs. Flyers (5)

Season series: Philadelphia went 4-2-0.

Lowdown: It's being billed as the series to watch. The storylines are endless — from Sidney Crosby's playoff return to Jaromir Jagr and Max Talbot returning to Pittsburgh as Flyers, to questions surrounding Philly goalie Ilya Bryzgalov. The only guarantee is one contender will be eliminated.

Pick: Pens in seven.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canucks (1) vs. Kings (8)

Season series: Vancouver went 2-1-1.

Lowdown: Regular-season champs for a second straight year, Vancouver is looking to get one more win this spring than last.

Arguably the only reason L.A. got into the playoffs is goalie Jonathan Quick, who registered 10 shutouts. **Pick:** Canucks in seven.

Blues (2) vs. Sharks (7)

Season series: St. Louis went 4-0-0.

Lowdown: The jockeying started early with Sharks coach Todd McLellan pronouncing his team the underdog and noting the pressure St. Louis is under.

While that's true based on the regular season, San Jose holds an undisputed edge in playoff experience after advancing to the Western Conference final the last two years. **Pick:** St. Louis in five.

Coyotes (3) vs. Blackhawks (6)

Season series: Phoenix went 3-1-0.

Lowdown: The Coyotes are trying to win their first playoff series since moving to the desert in 1996. They have drawn Chicago, with a captain (Jonathan Toews) who has concussion problems and a goalie (Corey Crawford) who is struggling. **Pick:** Hawks in five.

Predators (4) vs. Wings (5)

Season series: Tied 3-3-0.

Lowdown: This series pits the up-and-comers (Nashville) against the wily veterans (Detroit).

Preds GM David Poile believes he's built a cup contender.

But Detroit has lost just once in the first-round since the lockout and have welcomed back a number of injured players. **Pick:** Preds in seven. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND

CONFERENCE QUARTER-FINALS
(Best-of-7) — All Times Eastern

EASTERN CONFERENCE

N.Y. RANGERS (1) VS. OTTAWA (8)
Tomorrow's game
Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Saturday's game
Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 16
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 18
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
x-Ottawa at NY Rangers, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 23
x-N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, TBD
Thursday, April 26
x-Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers, TBD

BOSTON (2) VS. WASHINGTON (7)
Tomorrow's game
Washington at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's game
Washington at Boston, 3 p.m.
Monday, April 16
Boston at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
Boston at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
x-Washington at Boston, 3 p.m.

FLORIDA (3) VS. NEW JERSEY (6)
Friday's game
New Jersey at Florida, 7 p.m.
Sunday's game
New Jersey at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 17
Florida at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
Florida at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
x-New Jersey at Florida, 6:30 p.m.

PITTSBURGH (4) VS. PHILADELPHIA (5)
Tonight's game
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Friday's game
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, April 18
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 20
x-Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

VANCOUVER (1) VS. LOS ANGELES (8)
Tonight's game
Los Angeles at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's game
Los Angeles at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Sunday's game
Vancouver at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 18
Vancouver at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.
Sunday, April 22
x-Los Angeles at Vancouver, TBD
Tuesday, April 24
x-Vancouver at Los Angeles, TBD
Thursday, April 26
x-Los Angeles at Vancouver, TBD

ST. LOUIS (2) VS. SAN JOSE (7)
Tomorrow's game
San Jose at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's game
San Jose at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, April 16
St. Louis at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
St. Louis at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
x-San Jose at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m.

PHOENIX (3) VS. CHICAGO (6)
Tomorrow's game
Chicago at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Saturday's game
Chicago at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Tuesday, April 17
Phoenix at Chicago, 9 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
Phoenix at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
x-Chicago at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

NASHVILLE (4) VS. DETROIT (5)
Tonight's game
Detroit at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Friday's game
Detroit at Nashville, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Nashville at Detroit, 12 p.m.
Tuesday, April 17
Nashville at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 20
x-Detroit at Nashville, 8 p.m.
x — played only if necessary.

NHL DRAFT LOTTERY

At Toronto

Results last night from the NHL's lottery to determine the opening positions for the 2012 entry draft, to be held June 22-23 in Pittsburgh:

1. Edmonton Oilers; 2. Columbus Blue Jackets; **3. Montreal Canadiens**; 4. New York Islanders; **5. Toronto Maple Leafs**; 6. Anaheim Ducks; 7. Minnesota Wild; 8. Carolina Hurricanes; **9. Winnipeg Jets**; 10. Tampa Bay Lightning. 11. Washington Capitals (from Colorado); 12. Buffalo Sabres; 13. Dallas Stars; **14. Calgary Flames.**

HOCKEY

IIHF WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

At Burlington, Vt.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

GROUP A

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	Pt
y-U.S.	3	3	0	0	0	29	2	9
y-Canada	**3**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**19**	**12**	**6**
x-Finland	3	1	0	0	2	7	18	3
x-Russia	3	0	0	0	3	5	28	0

GROUP B

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Sweden	3	2	0	0	1	9	5	6
x-Switzerland	3	2	0	0	1	7	6	6
Slovakia	3	1	0	0	2	6	9	3
Germany	3	1	0	0	2	6	8	3

x — advanced to quarter-finals.
y — advanced to Friday's semifinals.
Note: Three points for a regulation win, two for an overtime win and one for an overtime loss.

Yesterday's results
Canada 14 Russia 1
Slovakia 4 Germany 2
Switzerland 3 Sweden 2
U.S. Finland
End of Round Robin
PLAYOFFS
Today's games — All Times Eastern
CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET
Quarter-finals
Russia vs. Switzerland, 3 p.m.
Finland vs. Sweden, 7 p.m.
RELEGATION BRACKET
Slovakia vs. Germany, 5 p.m.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	3	1	.750	—
Tampa Bay	3	1	.750	—
Toronto	3	2	.600	½
New York	1	3	.250	2
Boston	1	4	.200	2½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	4	0	1.000	—
Chicago	2	2	.500	2
Kansas City	2	2	.500	2
Cleveland	1	3	.250	3
Minnesota	0	4	.000	4

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	3	1	.750	—
Seattle	3	2	.600	½
Los Angeles	2	2	.500	1
Oakland	2	3	.400	1½

Yesterday's results
Toronto 7 Boston 3
Detroit 5 Tampa Bay 2
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland (ppd., rain)
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore
Seattle at Texas
Kansas City at Oakland
Monday's results
Boston 4 Toronto 2
Chicago White Sox 4 Cleveland 2
L.A. Angels 5 Minnesota 1
N.Y. Yankees 6 Baltimore 2
Oakland 1 Kansas City 0
Texas 11 Seattle 5
Today's games — All Times Eastern
Chicago White Sox (Danks 0-1) at Cleveland (Masterson 0-0), 12:05 p.m.
Boston (Lester 0-0) at Toronto (R.Romero 0-0), 12:37 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Shields 0-0) at Detroit (Verlander 0-0), 1:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Chen 0-0) at Oakland (McCarthy 0-1), 3:35 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 0-0) at Baltimore (Arrieta 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Millwood 0-0) at Texas (Lewis 1-0), 8:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Weaver 1-0) at Minnesota (Pavano 0-1), 8:10 p.m.

BLUE JAYS 7, RED SOX 3

Boston	ab	r	h	bi	Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
Ellsury cf	3	2	0	0	YEscor ss	5	2	2	0
Pedroia 2b	5	0	3	0	KJhnsn 2b	4	1	1	0
AdGnzl 1b	4	0	1	3	Bautist rf	4	0	0	0
Ortiz dh	4	0	0	0	Lind 1b	4	0	2	1
Youkils 3b	4	0	2	0	Encrnc dh	3	2	2	2
Sweeny rf	3	0	1	0	Lawrie 3b	4	1	2	1
C.Ross lf	4	0	1	0	Thams lf	3	1	1	0
SltImch c	3	0	0	0	Arencii c	4	0	1	2
Punto ss	4	1	1	0	Rasms cf	3	0	0	1
Totals	**34**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**Totals**	**34**	**7**	**11**	**7**
Boston					**000**	**001**	**002**		**— 3**
Toronto					**102**	**003**	**10x**		**— 7**

DP—Toronto 1. LOB—Boston 10, Toronto 6. 2B—Pedroia (3), Ad.Gonzalez (1), Youkilis (1), Sweeney (2), C.Ross (1), Lind (2). HR—Encarnacion (1). SB—Encarnacion 2 (2), Lawrie (1). SF—Ad.Gonzalez, Rasmus.

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Bard L,0-1	5	8	5	5	1	6
J.Thomas	1	1	1	1	1	0
Bowden	2	2	1	1	0	3
Toronto						
Drabek W,1-0	5 1-3	3	1	1	3	4
Frasor H,1	1 1-3	1	0	0	1	1
L.Perez	1 1-3	2	0	0	0	1
Janssen	1	3	2	2	1	3

Bard pitched to 2 batters in the 6th.
Umpires—Home, Tim McClelland; First, Ted Barrett; Second, Brian Runge; Third, Marvin Hudson.
T—3:19. A—26,351 (49,260) at Toronto.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	4	0	1.000	—
Washington	2	2	.500	2
Miami	2	3	.400	2½
Philadelphia	1	3	.250	3
Atlanta	0	4	.000	4

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	4	1	.800	—
Houston	3	1	.750	½
Cincinnati	2	2	.500	1½
Milwaukee	2	2	.500	1½
Pittsburgh	2	2	.500	1½
Chicago	1	3	.250	2½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	3	0	1.000	—
Los Angeles	4	1	.800	—
Colorado	1	3	.250	2½
San Diego	1	3	.250	2½
San Francisco	1	3	.250	2½

Yesterday's results
L.A. Dodgers 2 Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis at Cincinnati
Washington at N.Y. Mets
Atlanta at Houston
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Arizona at San Diego
Monday's results
Houston 8 Atlanta 3
Miami 6 Philadelphia 2
Milwaukee 7 Chicago Cubs 5
N.Y. Mets 4 Washington 3
San Francisco 7 Colorado 0
St. Louis 7 Cincinnati 1
Today's games — All Times Eastern
St. Louis (Garcia 1-0) at Cincinnati (Cueto 1-0), 12:35 p.m.
Washington (Strasburg 0-0) at N.Y. Mets (J.Santana 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Gallardo 0-1) at Chicago Cubs (Dempster 0-0), 2:20 p.m.
Arizona (Saunders 0-0) at San Diego (Luebke 0-1), 6:35 p.m.
Miami (Jo.Johnson 0-1) at Philadelphia (Halladay 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Delgado 0-0) at Houston (W.Rodriguez 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Lincecum 0-1) at Colorado (Guthrie 1-0), 8:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Bedard 0-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Billingsley 1-0), 10:10 p.m.

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Toronto	13	7	6	.538	158	153	—
x-Philadelphia	14	7	7	.500	159	183	½
Buffalo	13	5	8	.385	159	168	2
Rochester	13	5	8	.385	159	164	2

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Calgary	14	11	3	.786	195	150	—
x-Colorado	13	10	3	.769	174	159	½
Minnesota	13	6	7	.462	157	158	4½
Edmonton	12	4	8	.333	125	135	6
Washington	13	4	9	.308	141	157	6½

x — clinched playoff berth.
Saturday's games — All Times Eastern
Calgary at Rochester, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Buffalo at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Toronto at Colorado, 9 p.m.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Kansas City	5	5	0	0	8	1	15
New York	4	2	2	0	10	7	6
Columbus	3	2	1	0	3	2	6
Houston	3	2	1	0	2	2	6
New England	5	2	3	0	4	6	6
D.C. United	5	1	2	2	5	5	5
Chicago	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
Montreal	6	1	4	1	5	12	4
Philadelphia	4	0	3	1	2	6	1
Toronto	4	0	4	0	2	9	0

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Real Salt Lake	6	5	1	0	11	4	15
San Jose	5	4	1	0	8	2	12
Colorado	5	3	2	0	7	7	9
Vancouver	5	2	1	2	4	3	8
Seattle	4	2	1	1	5	2	7
Dallas	5	2	2	1	6	8	7
Chivas USA	5	2	3	0	3	4	6
Portland	5	1	3	1	7	8	4
Los Angeles	4	1	3	0	5	8	3

Saturday's games — All Times Eastern
Columbus at Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m.
Colorado at Seattle, 4 p.m.
D.C. United at New England, 4 p.m.
Chivas USA at Toronto, 4:30 p.m.
San Jose at New York, 7 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Montreal at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Houston at Chicago, 7 p.m.

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

Yesterday's result
Blackburn 2 Liverpool 3

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Brighton 0 Reading 1
Portsmouth 0 Millwall 1

LEAGUE ONE

Rochdale 2 Sheffield United 5

FRANCE

FRENCH CUP

SEMIFINALS
Yesterday's result
Gazelec Ajaccio 0 Lyon 4

GERMANY

BUNDESLIGA

Yesterday's results
Augsburg 1 Stuttgart 3
Hertha Berlin 1 Freiburg 2
Mainz 4 Cologne 0
Werder Bremen 2 Borussia Moenchengladbach 2

ITALY

SERIE A

Yesterday's result
Chievo Verona 0 AC Milan 1

SPAIN

LA LIGA

Yesterday's results
Barcelona 4 Getafe 0
Osasuna 2 Espanyol 0
Real Sociedad 1 Real Betis 1

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Chicago	43	14	.754	—
x-Miami	40	16	.714	2½
Indiana	35	22	.614	8
d-Boston	33	24	.579	10
Atlanta	34	23	.596	9
Orlando	34	24	.586	9½
Philadelphia	30	27	.526	13
New York	29	27	.518	13½
Milwaukee	28	29	.491	15
Detroit	21	36	.368	22
New Jersey	21	38	.356	23
Cleveland	19	36	.345	23
Toronto	20	38	.345	23½
Washington	14	44	.241	29½
Charlotte	7	49	.125	35½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Oklahoma City	42	15	.737	—
x-San Antonio	40	15	.727	1
d-L.A. Lakers	36	22	.621	6½
L.A. Clippers	34	23	.596	8
Memphis	33	23	.589	8½
Houston	32	25	.561	10
Dallas	31	26	.544	11
Denver	31	26	.544	11
Phoenix	30	27	.526	12
Utah	30	28	.517	12½
Portland	27	31	.466	15½
Minnesota	25	33	.431	17½
Golden State	22	34	.393	19½
Sacramento	19	38	.333	23
New Orleans	15	42	.263	27

d — division leader; **x** — clinched playoff berth; **y** — clinched division

Last night's results
Boston 115 Miami 107
Cleveland 103, Charlotte 90
Philadelphia 107 New Jersey 88
Washington 93 Orlando 85
Sacramento at Dallas
New York at Chicago
Monday's results
Indiana 103 Toronto 98
Denver 123 Golden State 84
Houston 94 Portland 89
Memphis 94 L.A. Clippers 85
L.A. Lakers 93 New Orleans 91
Oklahoma City 109 Milwaukee 89
Orlando 119 Detroit 89
Phoenix 114 Minnesota 90
Utah 91 San Antonio 84
Washington 113 Charlotte 85
Tonight's games — All Times Eastern
Indiana at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Memphis, 8 p.m.
New York at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Boston, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Denver, 9 p.m.
Golden State at Portland, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Detroit at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Miami at Chicago, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Memphis at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Dallas at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	56	558	372	1572	28.1
Durant, OkC	57	556	352	1575	27.6
James, Mia	54	539	322	1445	26.8
Love, Minn	54	474	379	1432	26.5
Westbrook, OkC	57	518	289	1382	24.2
Wade, Mia	44	380	220	995	22.6
Aldridge, Por	55	483	223	1191	21.7
D. Williams, NJ	52	379	245	1117	21.5

Not including last night's games

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+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Longhorn 4x4 shown.§

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RamTruck.ca/Offers

Wise customers read the fine print: •, †, ‡, ❖, §, The Save the Freight Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers on or after April 3, 2012. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailers for complete details and conditions. •$23,595 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) only and includes $9,750 Consumer Cash Discount and $1,500 Save the Freight Discount. Pricing includes air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. •Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select 2012 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. †4.99% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) model to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank, TD Auto Finance and Ally Credit Canada. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. See your retailer for complete details. Example: 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) with a Purchase Price of $23,595 (including applicable Consumer Cash Discount and $1,500 Save the Freight Discount) financed at 4.99% over 96 months with $0 down payment, equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $138 with a cost of borrowing of $5,070 and a total obligation of $28,665.46. Pricing includes air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ‡Save the Freight Discount offer applies to eligible new 2012 Ram 1500, 2012 Dodge Journey SXT/Crew, 2012 Chrysler 200/200 Convertible Touring/Limited/S, 2012 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT/Crew and all Chrysler Town & Country models offered through Ontario retailers. Chrysler Canada will waive the $1,500 freight charge. While supplies last. See retailer for details. §2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Longhorn 4x4 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount and $1,500 Save the Freight Discount: $43,450. Pricing includes air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. See bottom of the ad for range of potential retailer fees. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◊Longest-lasting based on longevity. Based on R. L. Polk Canada Inc. Canadian Vehicles in Operation data as of July 1, 2010 for model years 1987 – 2011. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under license. ‡5Star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). ◊Based on 2012 EnerGuide full-size truck V8 to V6 fuel economy comparison. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc.

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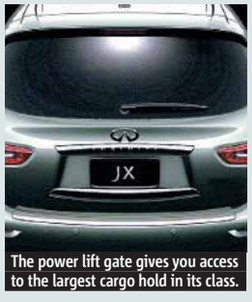
The lighter side of luxury

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Backing up

Infiniti has made most of its advanced electronic safety and crash-avoiding accessories available for the JX, plus a couple of first-time features. Leading this group is Backup Collision Intervention (BCI) that, when the JX is reversing, can detect vehicles in close proximity or crossing diagonally behind and apply the brakes.



The power lift gate gives you access to the largest cargo hold in its class.

All-wheel-drive

For the Canadian market, the JX comes standard with an on-demand all-wheel-drive system that directs 100 per cent of the engine's torque to the front under normal driving conditions, but can split off half to the rear wheels to maximize grip under slippery conditions.

2013 Infiniti JX

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel-drive luxury wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.5-litre DOHC V6 (265).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 11.5/8.5.
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $46,900.

Engine

The heart of the JX is the same familiar 3.5-litre V6 that can be found on a number of Nissan/Infiniti products. For the JX application, it produces 265 horsepower and 248 pound-feet of torque. That's not a lot of thrust for this category, especially when non-luxury seven-passenger brands like the Mazda CX-9 pack more power.

Review. Sitting pretty with seven-passenger utility and a smaller footprint

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

It's said that portion control is an essential part of any successful weight-loss program. That appears to be what Infiniti is practising with its scaled-down seven-passenger JX35 wagon.

Nissan's premium division currently markets the eight-passenger QX56 that uses Nissan's Titan truck chassis and 400-horsepower V8. But it demands a $75,000 entry fee and possesses a significant appetite for fuel that requires increasingly deeper pockets to satisfy.

It also checks in at a chunky 2,545 kilograms, which makes it a less-than-lithe dance partner on the highway or when negotiating a parking spot.

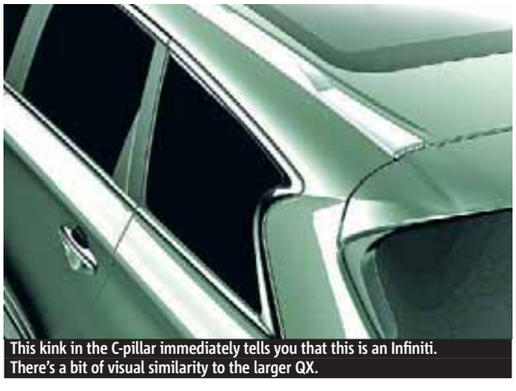
By contrast, the spanking new JX35 carries up to seven people across three rows of seats, but due to its passenger-car construction and smaller engine, it weighs about 365 kilograms less than the QX.

It also touts a base price that's about $30,000 shy of its bigger sibling.

The JX gives Infiniti buyers another option in a category that includes the Acura MDX, Buick Enclave, Volvo XC90 and Lincoln MKT.

They now represent the luxury-class sweet spot as more buyers defect from the traditional sport utility vehicles to more size and fuel-efficient models.

At $46,900 including destination charges, the JX35 makes a strong case for consideration in the luxury wagon bracket, where being in shape and packing the right gear gets you noticed every time.



This kink in the C-pillar immediately tells you that this is an Infiniti. There's a bit of visual similarity to the larger QX.

The JX provides a seven-passenger vehicle that uses a car-based front-wheel-drive platform and a thrifty V6. Previously, you had to step from the five-passenger FX right up to the eight-passenger QX.

By comparison

1 Acura MDX
Base price: $54,700

2 Lincoln MKT
Base price: $52,000

3 Volvo XC90
Base price: $51,000

5 DRIVE

Top Gear

EFI swap made easy

The mere mention of switching to fuel injection from carburetion is likely enough to send many old-school car guys into convulsions, but the benefits are so overwhelming — better fuel economy, mid-range power, easy starting, less evaporative emissions, and, oh yes, it's not a carburetor — that a change is hard to ignore. And with systems coming on stream that are easy to install and set up, there's really no time like the present. MSD's new Atomic throttle-body fuel-injection system needs just eight wired connections and a single fuel line (just like a carburetor) with no computer programming necessary. It uses your current four-barrel intake manifold and linkage, and you can even use your current air cleaner assembly. There's a fantastic installation/setup video that should take any fear out of the conversion at atomicefi.com.

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

The Crown passes on

Auto Know.
A familiar face of law enforcement slowly bows out for newer hardware. But it's not a done deal for Ford's front-wheel-drive replacements.

TODD D. BURLAGE
Wheelbase Media

Just how big an impression has the Crown Victoria made? The Austin Police Department in Texas stockpiled 176 of them before production ceased in 2011. ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE MEDIA

It's a lowly full-sized sedan, but everyone — *everyone* — knows its shape and what it stands for. Especially when it finds your rear-view mirror.

The Ford Crown Victoria cop car.

But all great runs must come to an end, and when the last of the more than 10 million Crown Victorias rolled off the assembly line in September 2011, the end of one automotive era ushered in the beginning of another.

"The cop-car market follows the way the consumer market goes," said Wayne Cunningham, senior editor of CNET Car Tech. "There has just sort of been a sea of change going on in the police-vehicle platforms and the Crown Victoria couldn't hold its place in the market any longer."

The Crown Victoria's fall from grace after 15 years of dominance in the police-force market came as a result of sagging sales, rising fabrication costs and an increased push for more fuel-efficient vehicles. Ford reports that demand levels for the Crown Victoria slipped by 60 per cent in its last decade of production, and the vehicle was available only in fleet sales since the 2008 model year through its discontinuation in 2011.

"The technology was catching up to the Crown Vic also," said Lt. Jim Flegel, a Michigan State Police officer with the MSP Precision Driving Unit. "Ford had to keep those vehicles up to date in terms of federal standards, and stuff all that money into the vehicle to keep meeting those standards. It just wasn't feasible anymore so (Ford) decided to go with a different platform that was going to meet all the federal safety standards."

The end of the Crown Vic era (1955-56, 1979-80 and 1983-2011) opened the market for a vehicle void in police departments throughout North America, though some agencies aren't quite ready to dissolve the relationship.

Before production ceased, the Austin Police Department (APD) in Texas stockpiled 176 Crown Victoria patrol cars to help protect and serve for years to come.

Even with the end of the line for the Crown Vic, Ford didn't quietly concede its place as the top manufacturer of police vehicles in North America, unveiling for the 2012 model year its next-gen cop car with the Ford Police Interceptor, which is built from the Taurus platform. But with a deep loyalty to the reliable Crown Vic in many departments, questions remained as to why Ford didn't just tweak the Crown Victoria platform and replace the V8 engine with the fuel-friendly Ecoboost V6 engine.

Cunningham explained that in the name of cost effectiveness, manufacturers routinely base their police and other specialty fleet vehicles on consumer models. And with demand for the rear-wheel drive Crown Victoria slipping, the best course became a new course from a financial and practicality standpoint.

"It would be inefficient for Ford to keep around the platform just for a niche vehicle that maybe sells a couple of thousand a year," Cunningham said. "The major manufacturers are looking for platforms that are more versatile, modern and fuel-efficient, which will probably look more attractive from an accounting perspective and a city budget perspective also."

The Ford Police Interceptor breaks some new ground with a front-wheel-drive platform that includes an all-wheel-drive option.

The Michigan State Police Precision Driving Unit is at the forefront of police vehicle evaluation. And of the six four-wheeled police vehicles tested in September of 2011, for the 2012 model year — Chevrolet's Caprice 9C1, Impala 9C1 and Tahoe utility; the Dodge Charger; the Taurus-based Ford Police Interceptor sedan and Explorer-based utility vehicle — only the Ford models use a front-wheel-drive platform.

"The front-wheel-drive was surprisingly a very predictable vehicle," Flegel said of the performance testing results of the Ford models.

"With front-wheel-drive vehicles, you kind of expect them to understeer (continue in a straight line when the steering wheel is turned). We did not get a whole lot of understeer with the new Interceptor."

But Ford didn't pigeonhole itself with a front-wheel-drive only model and added an all-wheel-drive version that comes with a 263-horsepower, 3.5-litre V6, or the turbocharged "EcoBoost" 3.5-litre with 365 horsepower and 350 pound-feet of torque.

"With the police that are used to their trusty Crown Vic, they might be a little suspicious of the new platform because it is a front-wheel-drive platform," Cunningham said. "But the all-wheel drive version within that platform adds to the flexibility, and that may be something that brings the police forces on board with the all-wheel drive."

Flegel suggested that smaller departments or those situated in areas of harsh winter weather, such as Canada, might actually prefer the front-drive model, while larger departments with frequent freeway work and a need for higher speeds may be more likely to choose the all-wheel drive option, or use some of each.

Quote

"There has just sort of been a sea of change going on in the police-vehicle platforms and the Crown Victoria couldn't hold its place in the market any longer."
Wayne Cunningham, CNET Car Tech

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Jason & Melanie

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More power, less fuel: This BMW provides a win-win situation

Review. Legendary BMW sport sedan gets a new four-cylinder base engine for 2012

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

A brand new two-litre, turbocharged engine has replaced the legendary straight-six powerplant in virtually all of BMW's models. It's called the N20, and it exists because of the German automaker's constant questing towards ever-improving fuel mileage and performance.

The new N20 answers the call of shoppers demanding faster, thriftier machines. And it generates more power and way more torque than the old straight-six, while burning less fuel to do it. Namely, you get 240 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft, while cutting your fuel bill.

That's a win-win situation.

It all comes courtesy of a number of tricks up the N20's sleeve, made possible by the employment of various technologies to advance both performance and mileage. For instance, the oil pump, alternator and water pump are driven in an on-demand fashion, reducing strain on the engine when their services aren't required.

Variable valve timing and direct injection further optimize on-demand performance and fuel mileage.

The list of fuel-saving tweaks and systems is a long one — but suffice it to say the N20 is packed with efforts to give drivers plenty of power when it's needed while slashing fuel use when it's not.

An eight-speed automatic and new driver selectable ECO-PRO mode help further trim consumption. ECO PRO reconfigures the instrument cluster and computer, and alters the throttle, transmission and other systems to actively help drivers achieve the best possible mileage.

There's a built-in mileage log, and a gauge even shows how many kilometres you've added to your current tank of fuel by following the system's tips.

Doing so requires putting all thoughts of full-throttle acceleration and burnouts out of one's head and sitting back, relaxing and enjoying the ride.

Given the 528i's world-class levels of comfort, quiet and ride quality, enjoying that ride is easy to do.

Along with several passengers, I did wish for more interior space though, and the tester had only done a handful of kilometres before winding up in my grubby mitts — meaning the engine hadn't completed break-in and started achieving fantastic mileage just yet.

My test average landed at 11L/100 km, with highway consumption at a good clip over hilly terrain dropping to about nine.

Owners can expect that figure to improve as the engine collects further mileage.

At the end of the day, shoppers after a world-class sedan packed with world-class styling and technology employed for maximum efficiency should be impressed.

JUSTIN PRITCHARD/FOR METRO

BMW 528i xDrive

- **Engine:** 2.0-litre "N20" turbocharged four-cylinder, 240 horsepower.
- **Drivetrain:** All-wheel drive.
- **Observed Average Mileage:** 11L/100 km
- **Transmission:** 8-speed automatic.
- **Starting Price:** $54,500

AWD assures plenty of traction

The 528i rides beautifully on any surface, feels tight, planted and stable — even driven hard — and offers abundant traction on snow-covered roads via the optional xDrive AWD system. That trademark BMW sedan ride and handling feel is very much alive and well here.

A look at the rear of the 528i.
JUSTIN PRITCHARD/FOR METRO

Beauty on the surface and within

Further enjoyment on my test-drive came from a magnificent stereo system, sunroof, heated seats and of course the fantastic look of the interior and exterior.

The engine produces 240 horsepower. HANDOUT

Inducing smiles at full throttle

Make no mistake — this machine is all about fuel efficiency, but it still hauls along in something of a hurry when you give it the boots. Sounds aren't as pleasing as the former six-cylinder mill, but it's a pleasing, all BMW experience at full throttle nonetheless.

“I DARE YOU TO FIND A BETTER CAR FOR YOUR MONEY.

Titanium model shown

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Expect the beautiful, all-electric Infiniti LE Concept to show up on roads sometime within the next two years. CONTRIBUTED

Electric luxury coming down the wire

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

New York is one city that likes its electricity, especially in and around Times Square. It's also a city that prides itself as a purveyor of various luxury items, like $100 lunches and $35 per hour parking spots.

So this week's New York International Auto Show isn't a bad venue at all, for the world debut of the Infiniti LE Concept. When it shows up in production form, sometime within the next two years, the Infiniti LE will be the first full-electric vehicle from a major luxury brand.

With a few notable exceptions, production electric cars have so far been smaller, "hatchback" designs, which also wear their electric-ness on their sleeves. That's what makes this Infiniti concept, purported to be about 80 per cent true to its production-ready form, such an interesting development. Early adopters and green enthusiasts might be willing to take a few hits for the team, but will the luxury consumer?

If it doesn't cut it as a luxury car, it won't matter whether it's powered by electricity, petroleum, or linoleum.

Infiniti is confident it can make electricity work for that luxury buyer. Big range and big speeds require big batteries, which in turn are heavy and need long charging times.

Heavy is not good for handling and performance. Long charging times are not good for A-type personalities with places to go and people to see. Infiniti says the LE will crack this conundrum with lightweight structures (aluminum panels), super aerodynamics (coefficient of drag of 0.25), high-tech batteries (Lithium-ion), and two charging systems (plug in and wireless).

Yes, that is a wireless charging system. CONTRIBUTED

If all goes according to plan, the LE will be the first production vehicle with a built-in wireless charging system. Wireless charging via "inductive" energy flow has been around for decades. A lot of people have inductive stoves. One energy coil is connected to an energy source. It creates a magnetic field that excites electrical current in a second coil. In the LE's case, a coil is located at the rear of the car, and the other coil, the one connected to a power source, could be safely encased on the garage floor.

But inductive systems are usually only 80 per cent as efficient in transferring electricity as the normal, with-a-plug way.

"Less efficiency, yes, but tons of convenience," counters Andy Palmer, a Nissan vice-president with a lot on his plate, including global operations of Infiniti.

He's got a point. Just roll into your garage, and if you've bookmarked the parking place in the GPS, the Infiniti is ready to "self park" precisely over the charging spot, with a feature called Intelligent Park Assist. But Palmer is most proud of the concept's sleek bodylines. He noted it was extremely difficult to achieve those precise, sharp lines in the aluminum body panels. Three times they started again, to make sure this all-electric car was all Infiniti and all luxury.

Of all the automakers, Nissan-Renault has placed the biggest bet on electric vehicles.

The partners have gone on record saying they intend to sell 1.5 million electric vehicles by 2016.

2016 is the year when automakers have to achieve very low emission standards, so low that many wonder how automakers can meet them with the current technology. Nissan-Renault has decided they'll do it by having a lot of zero-emission electric cars in the mix.

If they keep at least some of them as good looking as the LE Concept, it certainly wouldn't hinder that strategy's success.

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*Limited time lease offers on a new 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) // 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) // 2012 Honda Odyssey LX (Model RL5H2CE) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. CR-V model shown is a 2012 Honda CR-V Touring (Model RM4H9CKN). Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) // 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) // 2012 Honda CR-V Touring (Model RM4H9CKN) // 2012 Honda Odyssey LX (Model RL5H2CE) on a 48 // 48 // 48 // 48 month term at 1.99% // 3.99% // 3.99% // 3.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $169.01 // $298.00 // $415.89 // $348.00 [includes $1,495 // $1,640 // $1,640 // $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100 except Honda Civic DX), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $1,655 // $3,661 // $3,661 // $4,279 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 // $0 // $0 // $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $9,767.48 // $17,965 // $23,623.72 // $20,983. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. **Receive 1.99% purchase financing on any new 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) for a maximum of 84 months available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Bi-weekly Finance example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) on a 84 month term at 1.99% APR, complete price of $16,520 [includes $1,495 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100 except Honda Civic DX), and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration], and 182 bi-weekly payments of $97. Cost of borrowing is $1,190.42 for a total finance obligation of $17,710.42. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. For all offers: license, insurance, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. ◊Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2011. ‡Multi-Angle Rearview Camera with Guidelines intended to provide assistance to the driver. Always exercise appropriate care while reversing. △Compatible with select smartphones. Your wireless carrier's rate plans apply. Only use texting feature when conditions allow you to do so safely. ^Highest Residual value for Compact Utility Vehicles and Multi Purpose Vehicles by ALG. ALG, the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. °2012 Canadian Black Book Best Retained Value Award winner – Minivan segment. See CanadianBlackBook.com for complete details. Based on value retained from original MSRP for 2008 model year vehicles as published by CBB, as of 1 January 2012.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Chevy Silverado 'tows like a dream'

Second Gear.
Ten years of trailblazing for the sturdy pickup

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The 1997 to 2007 generation of Chevrolet's Silverado pickup truck offered numerous engine and driveline combinations, including six and eight cylinder power, automatic and manual transmissions and two or four-wheel drive.

Numerous body and box combinations were also available. When shopping used, LS and LT models were even more highly-equipped, though more basic "work" trucks could also be had.

Common Issues

As a bare minimum, a Chevrolet-trained mechanic should check the underside of your potential used truck for signs of excessive rust, dents or holes, leaking differentials, transfer case leaks and oil or coolant leaks from the engine.

Ensure the vehicle's four-wheel drive system (if equipped) can be shifted between its various modes as outlined in the owner's manual. Check the engine oil level and condition, as some owners have reported oil consumption issues. Avoid a model that's low on oil, or with engine oil that looks dirty or burned.

Engine

A V6 engine, as well as numerous V8 engines, could be specified for Silverado models. Automatic or manual transmissions and two or four-wheel drive were also available, depending on the model in question.

What Owners Like

Owners note a roomy cabin, confident passing and towing power, a pleasing ride and a solid, heavy-duty feel. Mileage is often rated highly too — particularly on the 4.8L and 5.3L-powered models. Many owners say their Silverado "tows like a dream."

What Owners Dislike

A more positive and precise brake-pedal feel, a better standard audio system, and higher-quality interior trim are on the wish-lists of many owners.

Verdict

A careful test drive and inspection from a GM-trained mechanic familiar with Silverado's potential issues should be considered mandatory. A healthy last-generation model appears ideal for those after proven performance, comfort and confident towing.

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Auto lighting: More than just pretty colours

Driving Force.
According to Ford, interior lights are important factors to drivers

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

Light and colour can be powerful forces, affecting our eyes and even our moods and perception. That can be very important when you're driving so automakers design their interior lighting to reduce eye strain, draw your attention to important information and make the vehicle soothing and comfortable.

"We look at how people interact with colours," says Mahendra Dassanayake, technical leader in opto-electronics for Ford Motor Company.

"Lights, graphics and displays are critical to drivers [and] we need to make sure that the information is presented to the customer in an effective way."

On the upcoming redesigned Ford Fusion, drivers will be able to select the car's ambient lighting from a choice of ice blue, blue, purple, orange, red, white or green. The company says that ice-blue lighting is a particularly strong choice, since it can help keep occupants more alert, and makes it easier for drivers to notice other information the car is providing. Green relaxes people, who breathe slowly and deeply in its presence. Orange is described as "outgoing and optimistic," while red evokes strong emotions and gets your attention right away.

Messages communicated via the instrument cluster are colour-coded as well.

"These are red, amber or green, depending on how critical the information is," Dassanayake says. Just as a traffic signals use these three colours to indicate stop, caution or move ahead, the car's warning lights are coded similarly. A mild warning such as a reminder from the tire pressure monitoring system would warrant an amber light, while an urgent one, such as low oil pressure, flashes red to immediately grab the driver's attention.

The company also uses colour-coding on its MyFord Touch system, an in-dash touch-screen that accesses the vehicle's climate, entertainment, telephone and navigation systems. With a different colour dedicated to each of the four areas, the driver can potentially find a specific function faster than reading each heading, which means less time looking away from the road.

Automotive lighting will continue to evolve as new engineering and technologies are developed, Dassanayake says. And the field is wide open: other than grey or brown, there are no colours that aren't open to consideration.

Did you know?

- Certain levels or combinations of light trigger enzymes in the brain, which cause emotional responses. Automakers use these responses when determining what type of lighting should be used for various functions.
- Auto lighting designers must take the outside environment into consideration: lights inside the vehicle must display equally well in daytime or nighttime conditions.

On the upcoming Ford Fusion, drivers will be able to select the car's ambient lighting from a wide choice of different colours. Do these colours get your attention? FORD CANADA

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Top Gear

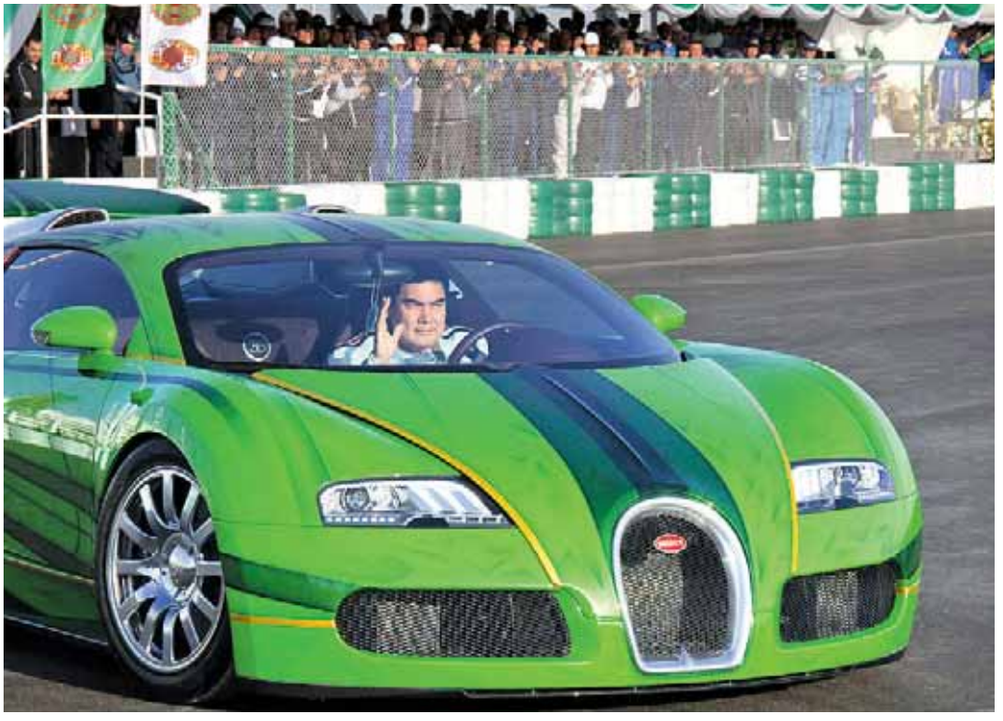
Start saving fuel dollars

Sloppy driving habits are as much to blame for poor fuel economy as the vehicle you might be driving. There are few ways you can know, for sure, other than when you fill the tank and do the math after the fact. But the next time you top up, take along the Lemur EconoDriver. It's a two part system, for about $80 US, consisting of a sensor/transponder that plugs into the On Board Diagnostics (OBD) port (usually located under the dash). Out of site, it relays data from your 1996 or newer vehicle to the small display screen that hooks to your keychain. All you need to do is enter the price of gas (cost per litre) and the EconoDriver begins calculating the cost of the trip — in real money — as you drive. For more information, visitlemurmonitors.com.

Top Gear

Lock yourself in

For drivers venturing off road, participating in parking-lot autocross events, or for those who simply want to be held in place more securely when travelling on public roads, there's CG-Lock. As the name implies, the CG-Lock is designed to lock the lap-belt (lower) portion, which keeps you tight in the seat, effectively turning your standard seatbelt into something resembling a racing belt. According to the company, the installation won't interfere with the operation of the shoulder strap or safety design of a regular belt and installing/removing the device won't damage the belt's webbing. The lock's metal clip attaches to just about any three-point seat belt and will allow you to dial in as much or as little slack as you want. Each CG-Lock is priced at $50 US and is available atcg-lock.com. **WHEELBASE**



Nice whip Mr. President

Turkmenistan's President Gurbanguli Berdymukhamedov drives a Bugatti sports car while racing track in the capital, Ashgabat, on Saturday. Turkmenistan's authoritarian leader has proven he doesn't only win elections easily, coming first in a car race he wasn't even supposed to take part in. Berdymukhamedov drove to the racing track in a Bugatti sports car Saturday morning ostensibly to give his blessing to the former Soviet Central Asian nation's maiden automotive competition. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Offer(s) available on all new 2011/2012 models purchased/financed/leased through participating dealers in Canada at retail customers only (purchase or new vehicle by February 29, 2012. Dealers may sell for less; dealer exceptions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice, see dealer for complete details. § 2011 Lancer SE/2011 Outlander XLS models shown here on MSRP of $25,398/$29,498 and $34,498 and selling price of $24,798/$28,898 and $33,998 after all applicable discounts. Taxes, registration, insurance, licensing and duties are new tires are excluded. ‡Rest of Canada: Includes destination, delivery and fees. Taxes, PPSA and dealer fees of up to $1,698 are excluded. § 0.9% APR/0% available on Outlander XLS and Lancer Evolution. † Combined City/Highway ratings for non-hybrid compact SUVs based on Energuide. ◊ 0% purchase financing available through Bank of Montreal for up to 72 months on all new 2011 Outlander models, up to 60 months on all new 2011 RVR models and most new 2011 Lancer models, and up to 48 months on all new 2011 Endeavour models. Some vary by model, see dealer for details. 2011 Lancer DE (5-M/T) financed at 0% over 60 months. Monthly payments equal $999, with a down payment of $0, a cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $24,998. ADMC Executive taxes, registration, insurance, licensing and duty are near tires. (Rest of Canada) Excludes up to $1,698 in freight, $299 in PDI, $100 in air tax, up to $39 in EHF, $15 duty on new tires, taxes, PPSA, registration, insurance, licensing, administration, up to $999 in other dealer fees, and any additional government fees. ** Real Backed claim does not cover Lancer Evolution and Ralliart models. © MITSUBISHI MOTORS. BEST BACKED CARS IN THE WORLD are trade-marks of Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. and are used under license. *** Whichever comes first. Regular maintenance not included. See dealer or mitsubishicars.ca for warranty terms, restrictions and details. Not all customers will qualify.

Auto world loses one of its finest designers

Death. Grandson of Porsche founder worked on classic sports car, ran his own design firm

Ferdinand Alexander Porsche in 1968 with a model of the Porsche 911. HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/PORSCHE AG

Ferdinand Alexander Porsche, the design chief credited with the classic 911 sports car and grandson of the automaker's founder, has died at age 76.

Carmaker Porsche AG said Porsche died Thursday in Salzburg, Austria. No cause was provided.

Porsche, known as F.A. to his colleagues, was head of the Porsche design studio in the early 1960s when the company developed the sleek 911 model that remains its brand-defining product. The car is now in its seventh version, and its sloping roofline, long, low hood and prominent headlights have not changed much since then.

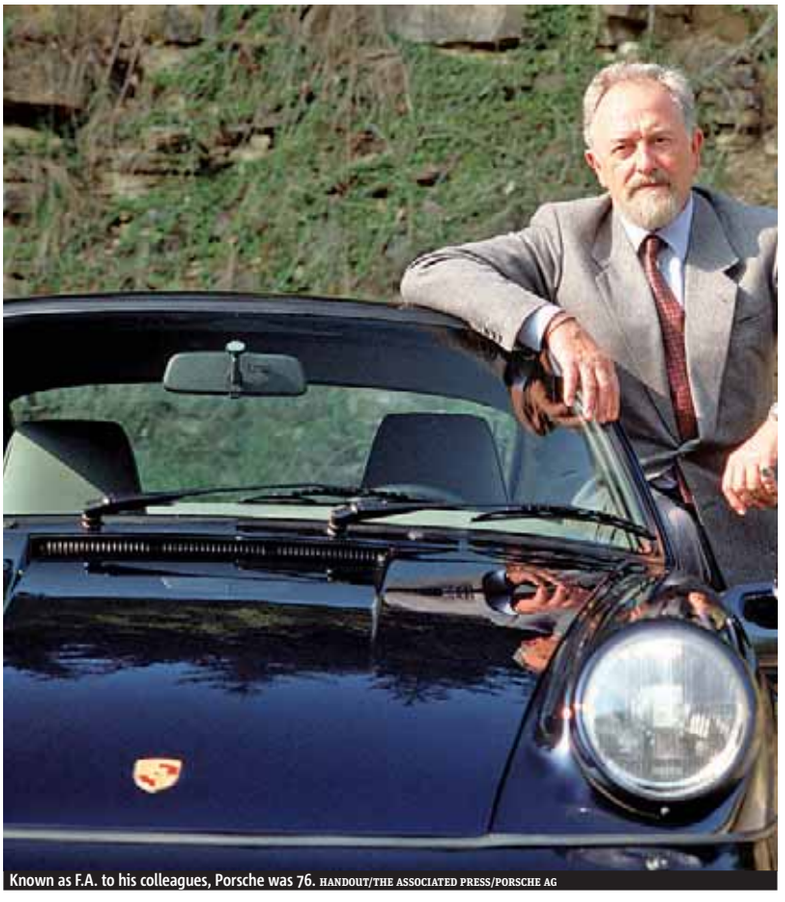
"The creator of the Porsche 911 has founded a culture of design in our company that distinguishes our sports cars even today," Porsche CEO Matthias Mueller said.

Porsche was the son of former Porsche Chairman Ferry Porsche, who died in 1998, and the grandson of Ferdinand Porsche, who started the company as a design and engineering firm in the 1930s.

Born in Stuttgart on Dec. 11, 1935, F.A. Porsche was initiated into the family business while still a boy, spending time in his grandfather's workshops and design facilities. He studied at the Hochschule fuer Gestaltung in Ulm and joined the company in 1958, taking over the design studio in 1962.

F.A. Porsche later founded a design business, Porsche Design Studio, where he designed eyeglasses, watches and pens.

He was to be buried in a private ceremony in the chapel at Schuettgut, the Porsche family's estate in Zell am See, Austria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


Known as F.A. to his colleagues, Porsche was 76. HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/PORSCHE AG

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2010 Honda Civic 4DR EX-L	A12004A	Black	Auto	68,430	HCUV, OFF LEASE, LEATHER	$23,415
2010 Honda Civic 2DR EX-L NAVI	P1036	Black	Auto	47,853	LEATHER, NAVI, HONDA CERTIFIED	$27,515
2008 Honda Civic 4DR EX-L NAVI	V12156A	Green	Auto	69,870	OFF LEASE, HCUV	$19,415
2007 Honda Accord 4DR SE V6	P1009	Grey	Auto	77,708	ALLOY'S, ROOF, KEYLESS	$14,815

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GRAND CHEROKEE: MID-SIZE SUV – $39,400 BASE PRICE, INCLUDING DESTINATION

QUANTUM LEAP

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE IS BIGGER AND WIDER THAN PREVIOUS MODELS

The current Grand Cherokee is a quantum leap for Chrysler's tireless off-road brand. It's bigger and wider than the previous model and most significantly, the distance between the front and rear wheels grows by about 13 centimetres, creating much-needed rear-seat knee and leg space.

Along with a stiffer platform, many of the various suspension components are shared with the Mercedes-Benz ML-class sport ute (Chrysler was not long ago part of the Mercedes-Benz juggernaut). Although there is a base 290-horsepower, 3.6-litre V6 and a 5.7-litre "Hemi" V8 with 360 horsepower and 390 pound-feet of torque, the 2012 model year brings 470 with the revival of the Grand Cherokee SRT8.

If you have the courage to plant your right foot to bring the 6.4-litre V8 to full boil, you will be helped out by 20-inch wheels with stickier road-biased tires, upgraded brakes, active suspension and active limited-slip differentials. The ultimate Grand Cherokee promises to be just as fun through corners as it is at the drag strip.

Jeep says the 2,050-pound beast will hit 60 mph (96 km/h) in less than five seconds. That's no doubt much quicker than the Wrangler, even though it finally trades its 202-horsepower, 3.8-litre V6 for a new-generation 285-horsepower, 3.6-litre V6. Fuel economy improves to 12.6/9.5 (city/highway) l/100 km, up from 14.1/10.8 for the two-door.

These changes complement the attention the Wrangler's interior received for the 2011 model year with heated front seats, climate control, heated power outside mirrors, added noise-reducing insulation and a steering wheel that contains audio, cruise control and hands-free-phone switchgear.

That might seem like a softening of the rough-and-tumble Wrangler, but it's all about keeping the majority of customers happy, which is certainly the story for the revamped Compass.

Derided for its frilly styling, it was still popular with new Jeep customers because it was a good value and good on gas. For 2012, the company is taking the criticisms to heart and has given the entry-level vehicle styling that should be intimately familiar.

Unlike every other model in Jeep's 65-plus-year history, the Compass still comes with standard front-wheel-drive, not rear- or four-wheel-drive.

Finally, Jeep has rated the four-wheel-drive versions for off-road excursions, making the Freedom Drive II Off-Road Package from the mechanically identical Patriot available in the Compass.

– wheelbasemedia.com

WRANGLER: COMPACT/MID-SIZE SUV – $24,000 BASE PRICE, INCLUDING DESTINATION

HOT NEWS FROM JEEP FOR 2012

- At long last, the Wrangler gets what it needs; the 3.6-litre Pentastar with nearly 300 horsepower ... now how about a Hemi?
- Oh, you will get a really big one in the Grand Cherokee as the SRT8 makes a comeback.
- Compass still enjoying its hangover from a trip to the Grand Cherokee cloning lab.
- 2.0-litre engine deleted from Compass/Patriot, leaving the 2.4.

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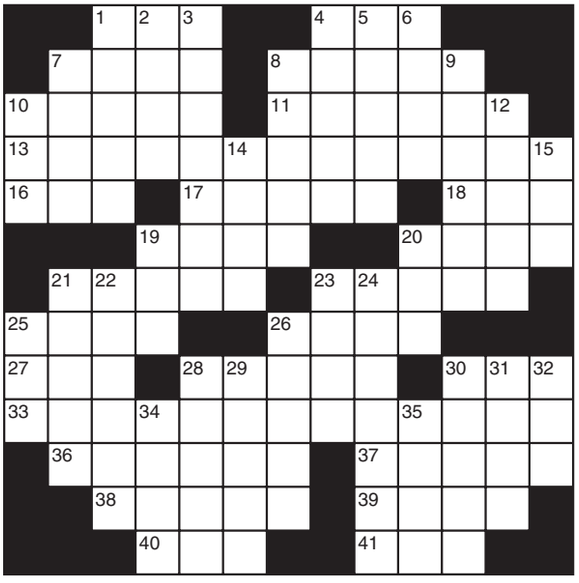
Crossword

Across

1 Hosiery shade
4 College stat
7 Met melody
8 BBQ load
10 Part of the flora
11 Juicy bit of gossip
13 It sucks
16 Attempt
17 Pay increase
18 Rotation duration
19 Count counterpart
20 Create
21 Resided
23 Exposes
25 Welsh veggie
26 Strictly entre —
27 Recede
28 Detroit team
30 Springtime abbr.
33 Thermoses
36 Impish one
37 Burst forth
38 Become one
39 Spectacles selection
40 Witness
41 Type measures

Down

1 Frequent Hepburn co-star
2 Japanese indigene
3 Neither sharp nor flat
4 Soccer scores
5 Cole Porter subject
6 — Romeo
7 Winged
8 Beany's pal
9 Soda-shop treat
10 Beetle Bailey's rank (Abbr.)
12 Plumbing problems
14 Shopping center
15 "Catcher in the —"
19 Comic-strip squeal
20 "— Doubtfire"
21 Preclude
22 PC pic producer
23 U2 lead singer
24 Spartan
25 Pentateuch bk.
26 Aristocratic
28 Money, especially when "filthy"
29 Mirror's offering
30 Graduates
31 Energizes, with "up"
32 Queue after Q
34 Works with
35 Spruce



Sudoku

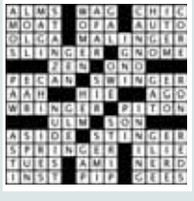
		6	4			3		
7	8			3	2			
9			7				4	
2				4				3
		9				1		
8				6				9
	1				7			8
			8	1			2	5
		8			9	6		

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	3	1	7	6	9	2	4
7	4	9	3	2	5	1	6	8
1	6	2	4	9	8	3	7	5
3	7	1	8	6	2	5	4	9
6	2	5	9	3	4	7	8	1
4	9	8	5	1	7	2	3	6
2	8	4	7	5	9	6	1	3
9	3	7	6	4	1	8	5	2
5	1	6	2	8	3	4	9	7

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

ZH HMA BKK, Z LTXRM KI DNRYAC BALOZF DAOA TXZFMZVACEQ GEZQNXJ Z JZVA KI FHONGA GKYAO.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINGER JOHNNY AND COMIC JIM SHOULD'VE BEGUN A BUSINESS, GIVING IT THE TITLE CASH AND CARREY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals Z

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Just because someone is acting strangely does not mean they are up to no good.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. The only thing you can be sure of is that you can't be sure of anything. If you keep that fact in mind at all times today, you'll do OK.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. If you make a friend or family member a promise today make sure you are in a position to deliver.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. No one expects you to be on top of your game every minute of every day, so why expect it of yourself?

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. People will pat you on the back and tell you what a great job you are doing. What you do today will be brilliant too.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You may find it hard to take someone seriously today but you must take what they tell you seriously.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Something you hear will upset you today. It isn't aimed at you personally, so why be put out by it?

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You possess an unshakable belief in your own abilities. But you don't seem to understand why others have doubts about you. Make it your business to find out.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. You may not see how the changes taking place in your world are for the best, but they are.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. It's OK to visualize where you want to be ten years from now but it's what you do each and every day that builds the future.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. You may be unhappy with a certain situation but it would be unwise to give up on it now.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. You are smart enough to find your own way out of a difficult situation but why not get some assistance?

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"Till death do us part?"
Emily

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